



BOROUGH
OF
PONTEFRACT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1949

B O R O U G H
O F
P O N T E F R A C T

A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
F O R T H E Y E A R
1 9 4 9

B Y
J . F . F R A S E R
M . B . , B . S . , D . P . H . , D . O b s t . , R . C . O . G .

Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
9, Horsefair,
Ponterfract.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Ponterfract.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Borough during the year 1949.

The Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector dealing with the Sanitary circumstances of the Borough, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies is complementary to this Report.

For your information certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

The National Health Service has now been with us for over a year. Many of the difficulties it brought with it are still with us. The dental service is still overrun, and there is still delay in obtaining spectacles for school children, though of recent months the waiting time has been reduced. We still have too few hospital beds; the shortage of sanatorium accommodation for the tuberculous patient is, if anything, more acute.

The clinic facilities in the Borough remain inadequate and we still have no Maternity Home.

Following the publication of my report last year, an approach was made by the Council to the Regional Hospital Board drawing attention to the great need for a Maternity Home in the Borough. We were then informed that it was the intention of the Board to provide 20 beds for maternity cases at the Aketon Isolation Hospital. My latest information is that, in addition to these beds, there will be a further 27

beds available at Hemsworth, and the accommodation at Castleford Maternity Home will be increased from 13 to 20. These are only plans as yet, and it is unlikely that any of these facilities will be available much before the end of 1951.

I am of the opinion that the Borough is large enough to merit its own Maternity Home, and that in not utilising the Pontefract Nursing Home, now closed, for this purpose a good opportunity was missed. In the same way it would have been possible to use part of the Baghill Isolation Hospital. However, the Regional Hospital Board has decided otherwise.

The housing position remains a matter of serious concern. It will be seen from the Sanitary Inspector's report that, despite every effort being made by the Corporation to provide new houses for the people, there are more people needing houses than there were twelve months ago. "Need" here refers to families actually living in lodgings and not to those applicants for houses who merely want a better house than they now occupy. Our present rate of building is thus not sufficient to maintain even the present housing situation.

The adverse effect on health which results is difficult to assess accurately, but in view of the increased risk of acquiring infection and the obvious discomforts of overcrowding, there must be much misery caused through friction with landladies, family rows, and uncertainty regarding the future.

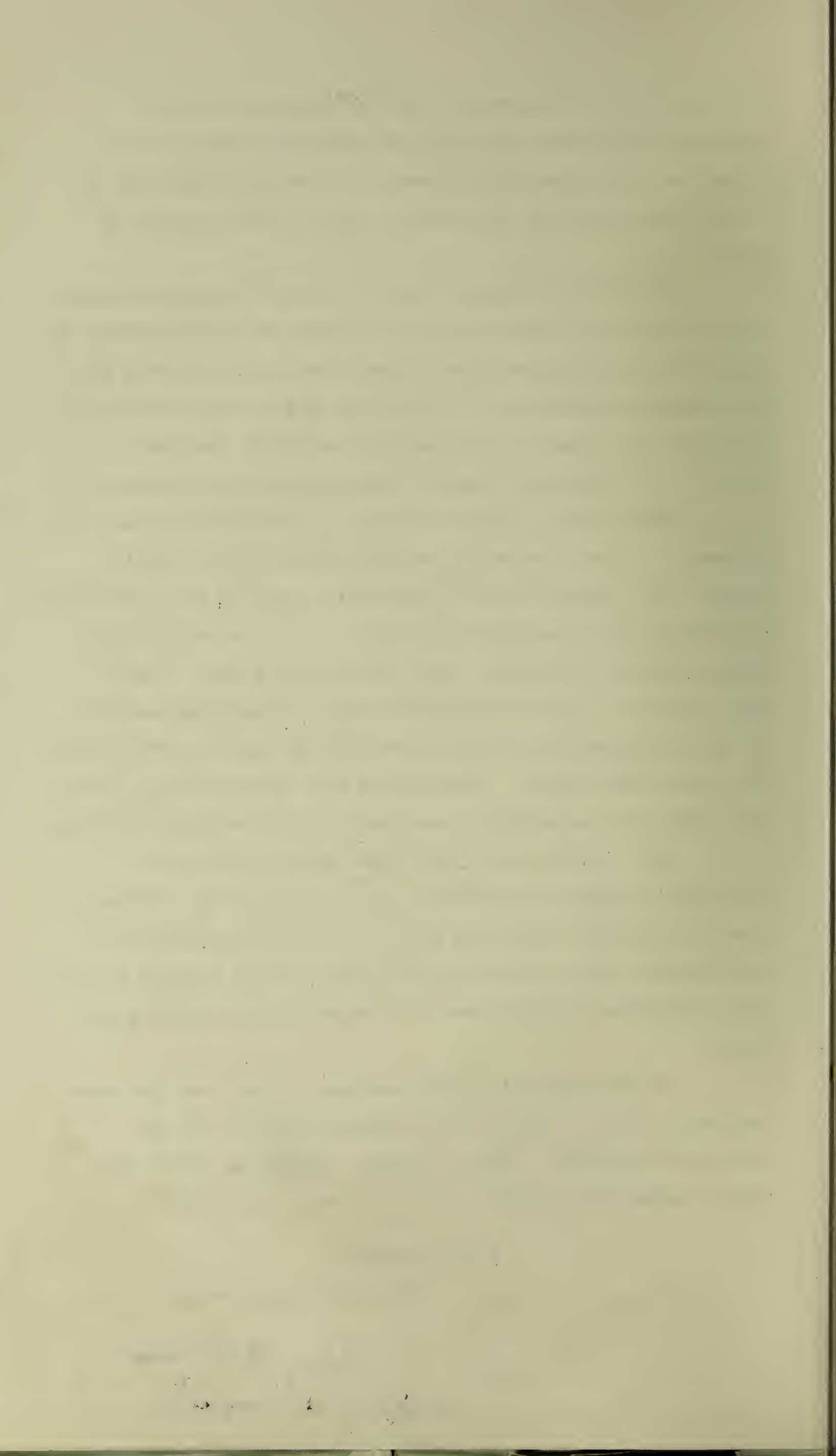
In the personal health services a good deal has been achieved, and the people have responded well to all the facilities offered. Their attitude towards my staff and myself makes this branch of the work well worth while.

I am Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

John F. Mason

Medical Officer of Health.



There has been one maternal death during the year.

There has been one material fault during the year.
The fault was your number 3 fault that was found.

Death rates.

General rate per 1,000 population	10.13
All infants per 1,000 live births	42.61
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	38.58
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	96.77
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births	2.44

The total number of deaths has risen by 12.

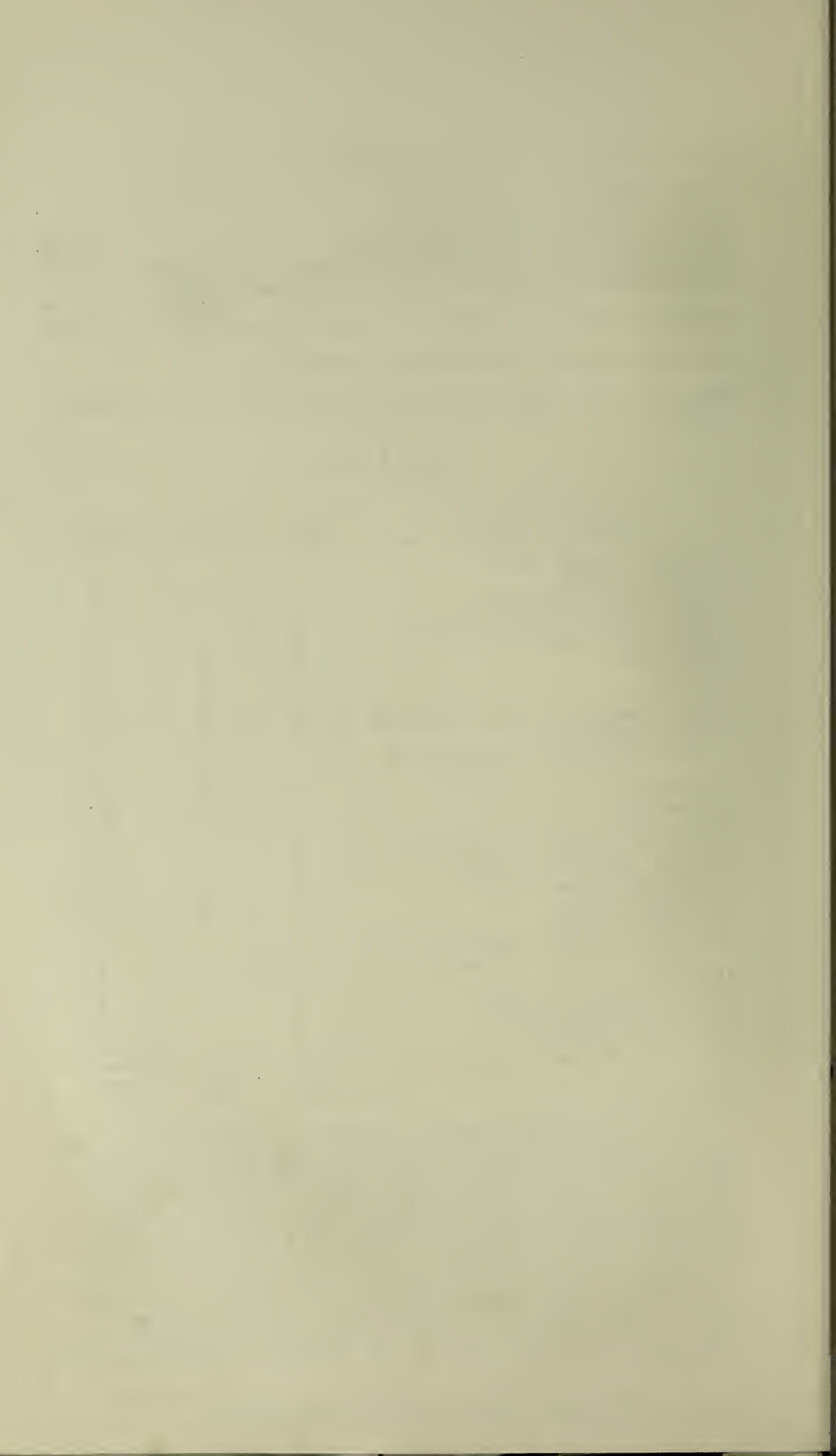
The principal causes of death are set out in the following table.

T A B L E I

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	-	1
Whooping Cough	-	1	1
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	7	2	9
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	-	1
Influenza	2	2	4
Cancer	20	20	40
Diabetes	-	1	1
Intra cranial vascular lesions	14	15	29
Heart diseases	29	26	55
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	-	3
Bronchitis	19	11	30
Pneumonia	7	4	11
Other respiratory diseases	3	-	3
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	1	2
Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	1	2
Other digestive diseases	3	2	5
Maternal causes	-	1	1
Premature birth	1	2	3
Con. Mal. birth injuries infant diseases	5	3	8
Suicide	1	-	1
Road traffic accidents	4	1	5
Other violent causes	1	1	2
All other causes	8	5	13
	132	99	231

Of the major killing diseases, tuberculosis produced 10 deaths in 1949 compared with 14 the previous year. Cancer showed a decrease, producing 40 deaths as compared with 42. Deaths in premature infants were also reduced from 6 to 3. Certain efforts have been made to grapple with the problem of the premature baby, during the year. A complete equipment, including special cot and apparatus, is now held at the ambulance depot in Pontefract, and is instantly available at the request of a general practitioner or midwife. It is transported by ambulance to the house where it is required. In addition, one of the midwives has received a special course of training in the use of the apparatus and in the care of the premature infant generally.

Improvement in the local death rate during the past 12 years is shown in the following table.



Years.			Death Rate.
1938	-	1940	13.1
1941	-	1943	12.2
1944	-	1946	10.8
1947	-	1949	10.0

Infant Mortality.

The following Tables give causes of infant deaths during 1949 classified into age groups and months of incidence.

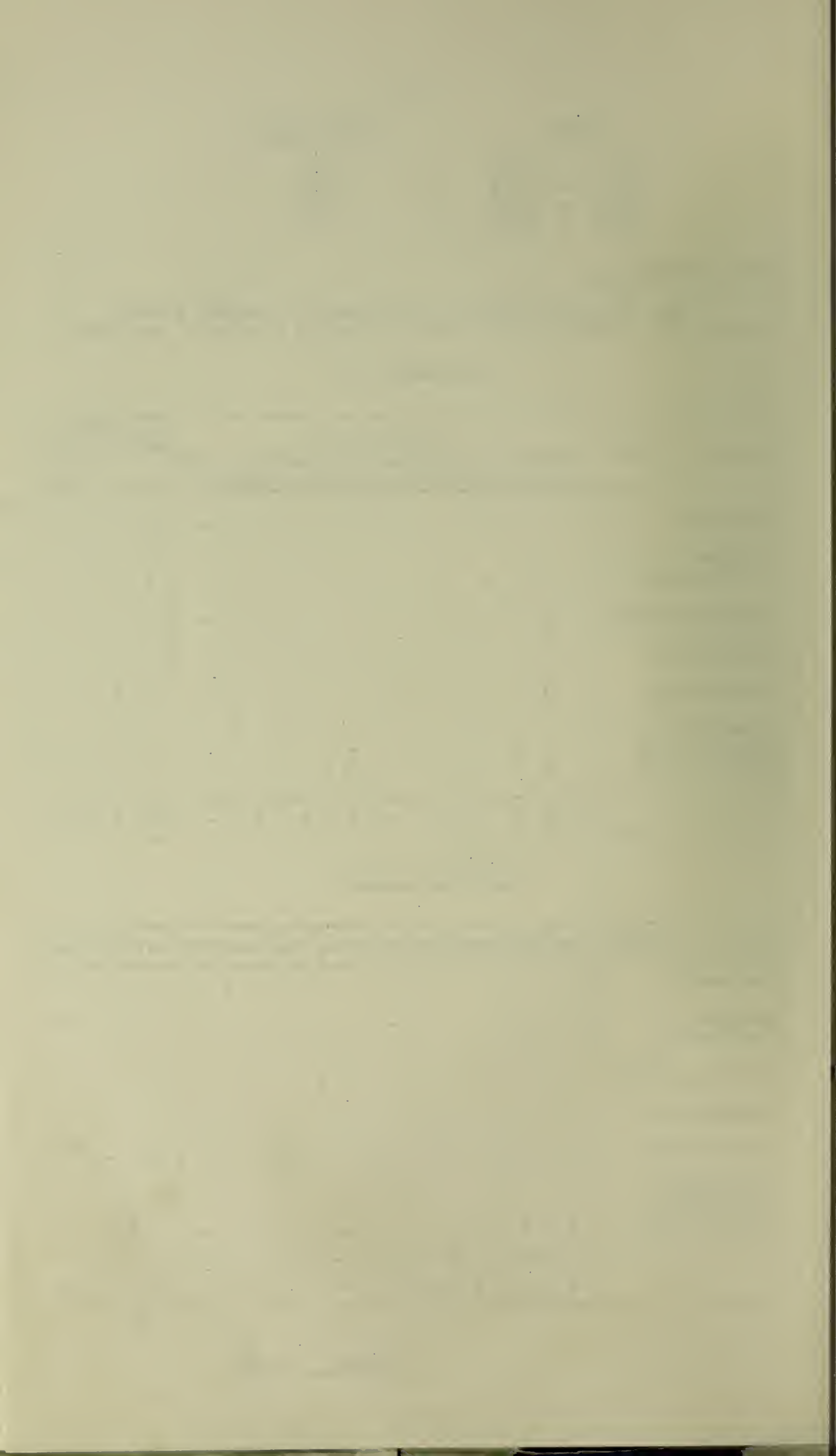
T A B L E II

Cause of Death	Age Groups								All ages under 1 yr.		
	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks	2-3 wks	3-4 wks	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mth	M.	F.	Tot
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	-	3
Gastro-enteritis	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
Prematurity	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Congenital causes Birth injuries etc.	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	4	3	7
	7	-	1	-	4	4	1	-	10	7	17

T A B L E III

Cause of Death.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Gastro-enteritis	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prematurity	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Congenital causes, Birth Injuries etc.	3	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3	7	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	2

Total - 17



P A R T T W O

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table gives details of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than tuberculosis).

T A B L E I V

	Jan/ Mar	Apr/ Jun	Jul/ Sep	Oct/ Dec	Deaths	Total	No. of cases admitted to hospital.
Scarlet Fever	33	23	11	2	-	69	67
Whooping Cough.	7	14	108	87	1	216	-
Measles	606	46	1	-	-	653	-
Diphtheria	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Chicken-pox	41	16	21	5	-	83	-
Pneumonia	16	3	1	1	5	21	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	-	-	-	3	3
Erysipelas	2	-	5	1	-	8	-
Acute polio- myelitis	-	-	1	1	-	2	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	2	-	1	-	3	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	1	-	1	1	1
						1060	74

Certain of the above figures call for comment.

The case of Cerebro Spinal Fever was normally resident in Featherstone; it was a baby of 6 months who died on the day it was admitted to the Pontefract General Infirmary.

Measles.

It will be remembered that a measles epidemic in the Borough began in October 1948 and the number of notifications rose steadily until the end of the year. During January and February of 1949 this large number of notifications continued and the epidemic did not subside until the beginning of March. The large number of cases will be noted. If the disease pursues its normal cycle the number of cases should begin to rise again during April, 1950, but as the epidemic above referred to must have infected a very large proportion of susceptibles in the Borough, it is possible that the 1950 epidemic will pass us lightly by.

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

By JOHN BURNET
BISHOP OF SALISBURY
AND
OF ELY
IN TWO VOLUMES.
THE SECOND VOLUME.
LONDON,
Printed by J. Streater, at the Sign of the Gun, in St. Dunstons Church-yard, near the North Gate.
1679.

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Whooping Cough.

Whooping Cough was also prevalent in the Borough during the year. We have not as yet, in this country, a satisfactory vaccine against this disease. A vaccine produced in America has yielded favourable results and it is expected that a similar vaccine will become available in this country during the next few months. Until a reliable vaccine is available it has been decided not to make immunisation facilities available at our clinics.

Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of this disease is only half that of the previous year.

Poliomyelitis.

Two cases of this disease occurred in the Borough during the year, during the period of prevalence in the West Riding. This disease remains one of the mysteries of medicine, and we still have much to learn of its mode of spread. It is already clear that a high proportion of the population must be infected at some stage of their life, but only a very small number of cases develop the characteristic signs of paralysis, and no doubt the mild cases are responsible for the occasional appearance of the severe form of the disease in some unexpected quarter.

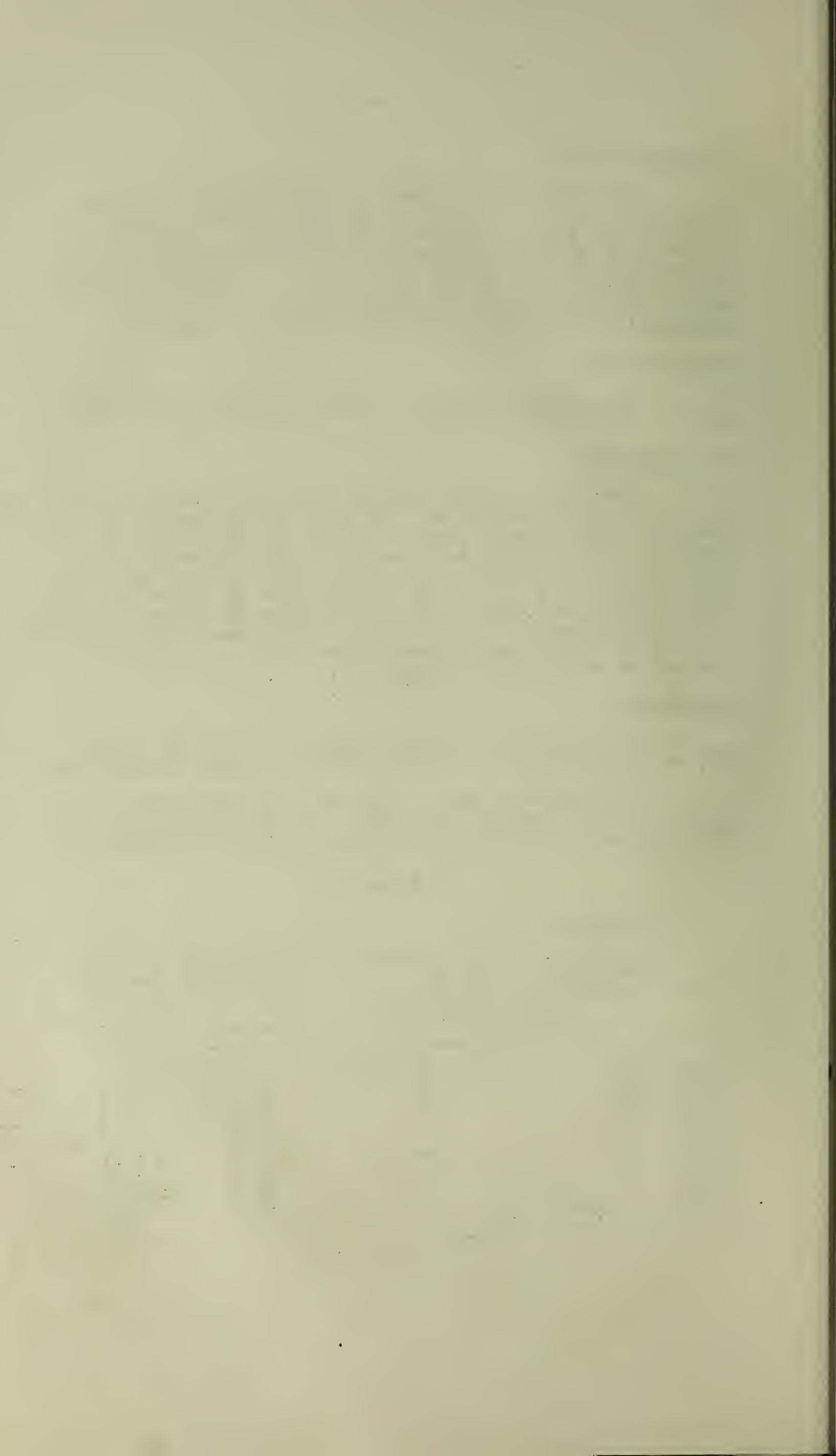
Diphtheria.

One case of diphtheria occurred during the year. 403 children completed a full course of primary immunisation.

The following Table shows the incidence of the disease in the Borough since 1942, together with the deaths occurring and the percentage of child population immunised.

T A B L E V

Year	No. of cases of diphtheria.	No. of deaths due to diphtheria.	Percentage of child population immunised against diphtheria.	
			Under 5.	Over 5.
1942	55	3	11.9	48.6
1943	52	2	30.5	74.4
1944	20	1	29.1	78.7
1945	5	-	42.0	68.7
1946	4	1 (adult)	66.3	76.2
1947	1	-	51.1	76.5
1948	-	-	57.7	79.1
1949	1(adult)	-	51.2	79.3



TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of tuberculous persons.

T A B L E VI

Number of cases in Register.	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory		Total in Register.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
At the commencement of 1949	87	51	22	23	183
Notified for the first time during 1949.	15	11	4	6	36
Removed during 1949.	21	4	1	-	26
At the end of 1949	81	58	25	29	193

The reasons for removal of cases from the register are given in the following Table.

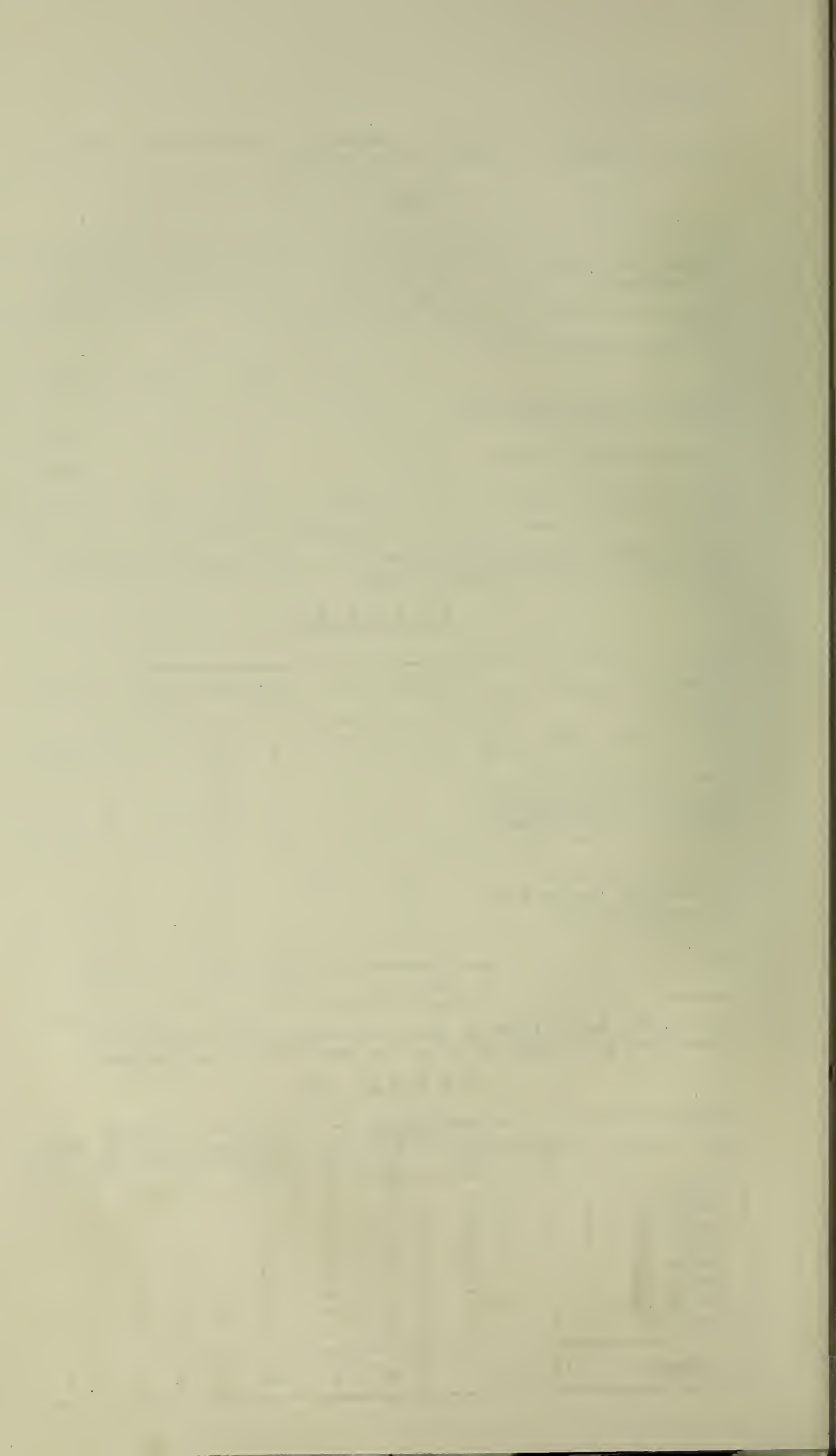
T A B L E VII

Entries relating To:	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Persons who have died	12	3	1	-	16
Persons certified by the medical practitioner in attendance to have recovered.	1	-	-	-	1
Persons who have ceased to reside permanently in the district.	8	1	-	-	9
	21	4	1	-	26

In the following Table new cases and mortality are classified according to age, sex and site of the disease.

T A B L E VIII

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory.		Non-Resp.		Respiratory.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	-
Under 25	3	4	1	-	-	1	-	-
Under 35	3	3	2	1	2	1	-	-
Under 45	1	1	-	-	3	1	-	-
Under 55	3	1	-	1	2	-	-	-
Under 65	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	1	1	1	-	4	-	1	-
Totals	15	11	4	6	12	3	1	-



The tuberculosis register increased by 10 persons during the year. The number of deaths from tuberculosis on the other hand, was three fewer than during 1948.

P A R T T H R E E.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

An additional Health Visitor/School Nurse was appointed during the year and the staff now numbers four. Their work has increased greatly and special tribute should be paid to the way it has been carried out.

The number of visits paid by nurses were as follows:-

	<u>First Visits.</u>	<u>Total Visits.</u>
To expectant mothers	161	265
To children under one year	422	2902
To children 1-5 years	28	6947

Child Welfare Clinics.

Despite the fall in the birth rate the attendance at these clinics has been maintained. The attendance of children under one year of age has, of course, fallen, but this has been more than counterbalanced by the increase in the proportion of children over the age of one year who continue to attend through the toddler stage. This tendency is one which should be welcomed, as it is during these formative years that careful supervision of the child is particularly desirable.

An ultra violet lamp was installed at the clinic during the year and evidently fulfilled a long felt need. The two sessions weekly, which were allotted to its use, soon became overcrowded and had to be increased to four. It has been very gratifying to note the marked benefit that many of the children have shown from this form of treatment.

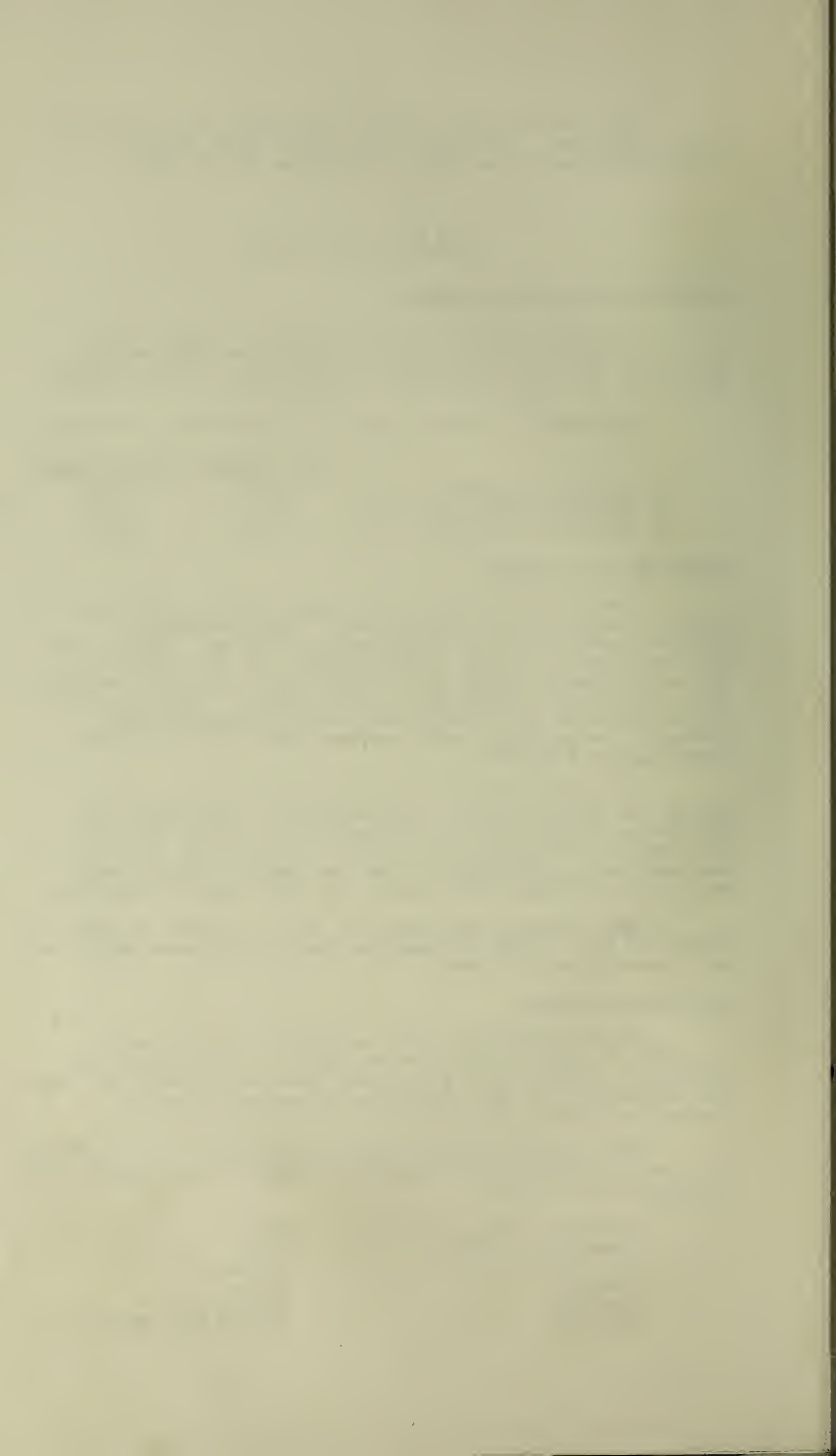
May I express my thanks at this juncture, to the ladies of the Voluntary Committee for all the good work they have done during the year.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

These were held weekly as before and were well attended. Special attention was paid to encouraging the mothers to attend for a post-natal examination when the baby was six weeks old, and the number of mothers availing themselves of this facility has doubled during the year.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost price (free in necessitous cases) to all women attending the clinics:-

Ostermilk (Nos. 1 & 2)	Bemax
Humanised Trufood	Virol
Cow & Gate	Virolax
Lactogol	Farex
Ovaltine	Adexolin
Glucodin	Scotts Baby Cereal.



The following were distributed free of charge:-

I.C.D. Tablets
Ferrous Sulphate Tablets
Vitecolin Tablets.

During the year 18 women were sent to the Maternity Hospital at Leeds; 2 to Hazlewood Castle Maternity Home; 63 to Walton Hall Maternity Home; 8 to Wakefield General Hospital, and 21 to Castleford Maternity Home; but in the majority of normal cases domiciliary arrangements were made.

For domiciliary confinements the full establishment of staff is now in operation, comprising four midwives and a relief midwife. All have been provided with a car.

1949 saw the issue of Gas and Air machines for Analgesia to all midwives, and it is hoped that the beginning of 1950 will see the issue of the new drug pethedine. Each of these should prove a useful weapon in the fight for painless childbirth.

The following analysis of births occurring during 1949, adjusted by transferred notifications, indicates how the various maternity services and institutions were used.

1. No. of births occurring in the Borough during the year.

Domiciliary Cases. Northgate Lodge. Nursing Home.

<u>L.</u>	<u>S.E.</u>	<u>L.</u>	<u>S.B.</u>	<u>L.</u>	<u>S.B.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
230	4	29	-	67	-	330

2. Outward Transfers.

3	-	12	-	40	-	55
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3. Inward Transfers.

133

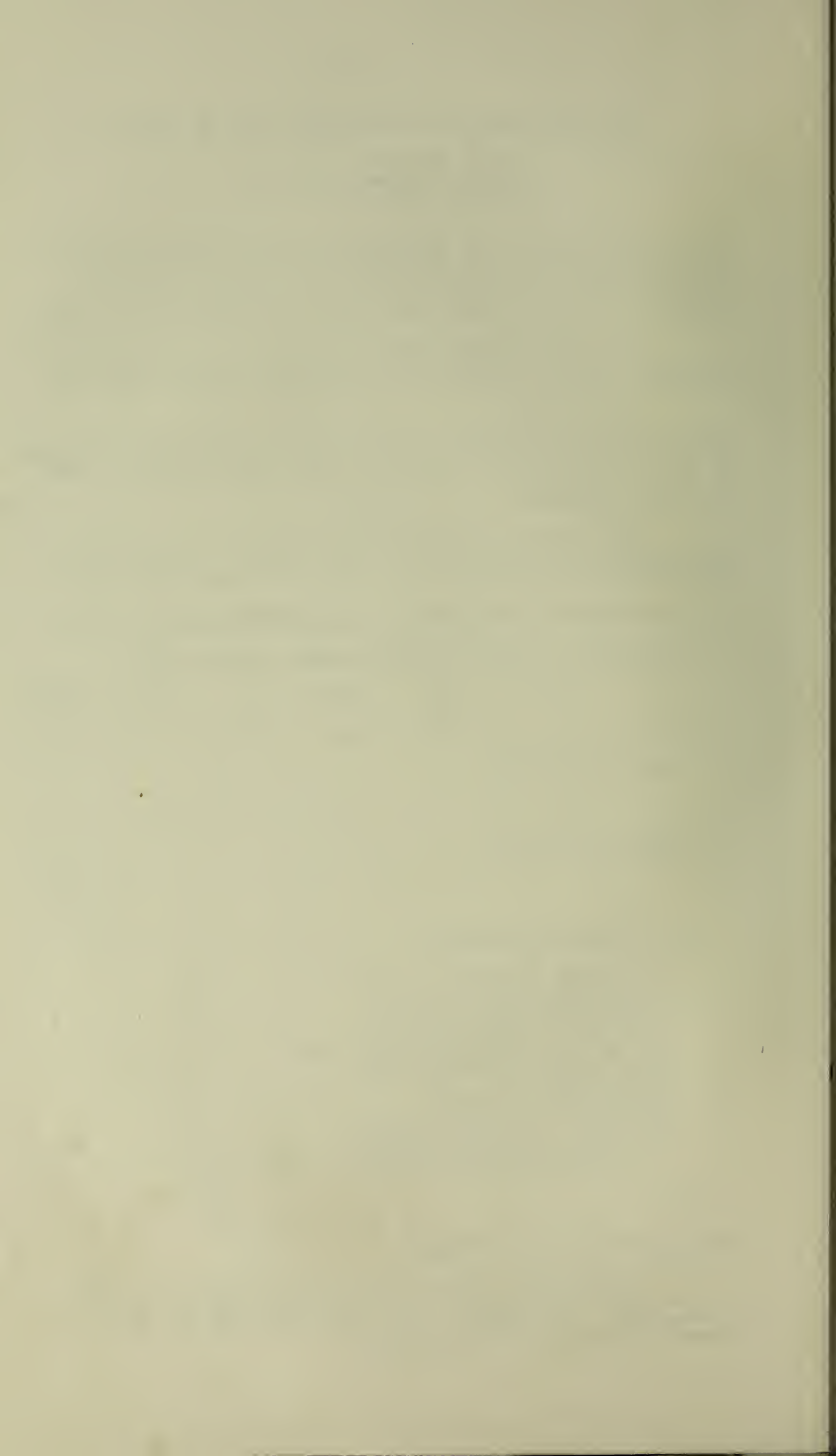
408

No. of Inward Transfers.

Maternity Hospital at Leeds	18
Castleford Maternity Home	26
Wakefield General Hospital	8
Walton Hall Maternity Home	63
Hazlewood Castle Maternity Home	2
Four Gables Maternity Home	1
Relations	2
Staincliffe Hospital	2
Manygate Maternity Hospital	9
St. Mary's Hospital Leeds	1
Leicester Maternity Hospital	1
	<u>133</u>

Care of the Premature Infant.

17 premature infants were notified during the year. In each case a special investigation was made, and help given as required. In hospital cases there was close liaison between hospitals and Authorities.



P A R T F O U R.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

Routine school medical inspections were carried out in the Pontefract schools during the year.

The consultation clinics for school children have maintained their high attendance throughout the year and are of special value in dealing with the debilitated child.

Specialist consultations for orthopaedic cases (held twice monthly), ear, nose and throat cases (held fortnightly), and ophthalmic cases (held fortnightly), were also carried out. Unfortunately, owing to uncertainty of terms of employment, Mr. Hutton was obliged to cease his Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics at the beginning of April, but they will be resumed at the beginning of the new year.

The demand for all these clinic is great and in spite of every effort, the waiting list grows steadily larger.

Minor ailment clinics, in the charge of the school nurse, were held daily with an average attendance of 40 school children.

P A R T F I V E.

HOME NURSING.

Two Home Nurses worked in the district throughout the year, and during the year they were augmented by a relief nurse who serves the whole Division. An average of 120 visits is carried out weekly.

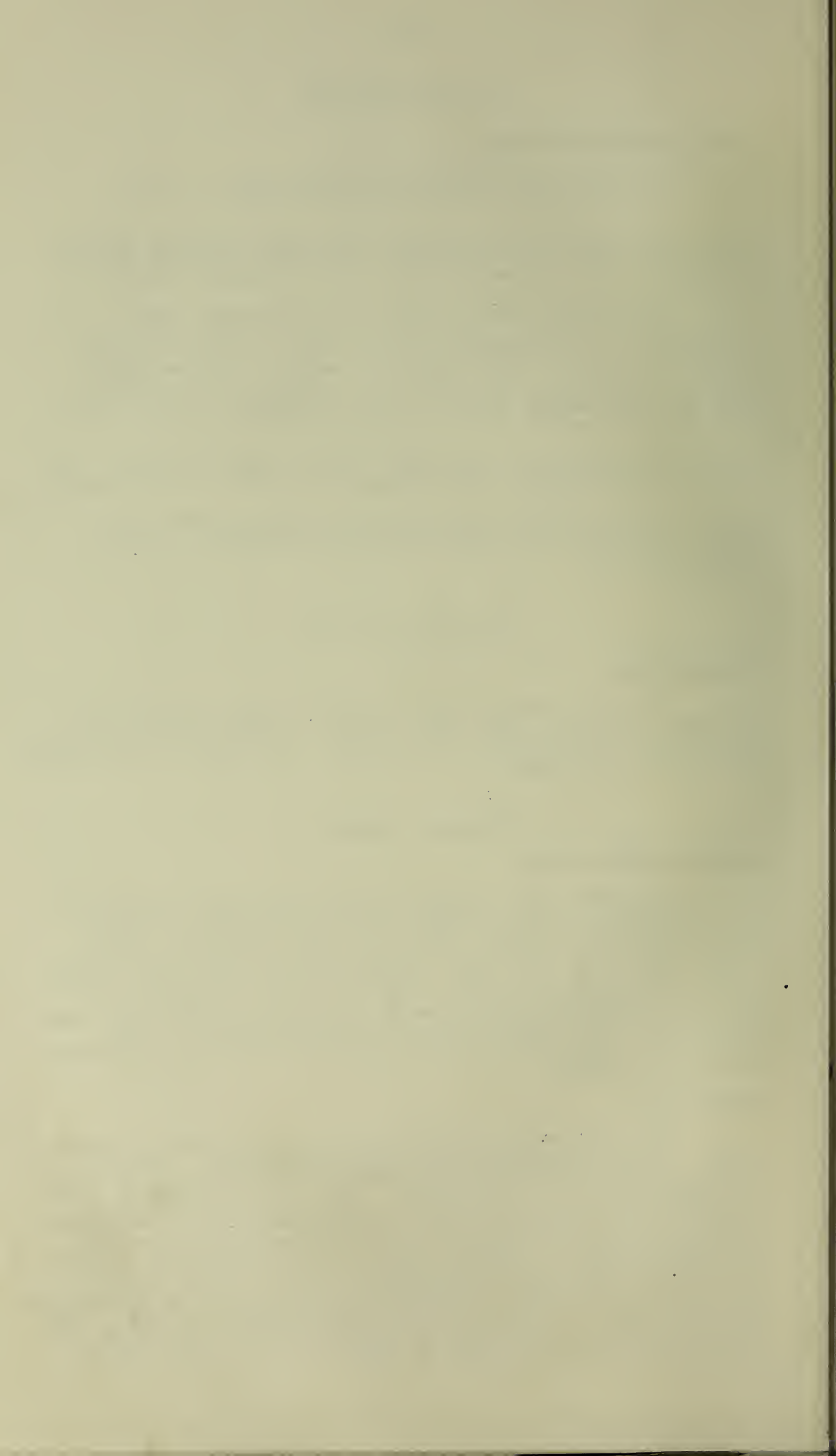
P A R T S I X.

CARE AND AFTER CARE.

An effort has been made during the year to implement our obligations under the National Health Service Act of 1946 under this heading. The Pontefract Infirmary found itself unable to obtain the services of an Almoner and after a good deal of negotiating, a Health Visitor was given access to the Hospital, on the one hand to furnish background histories of patients where such information was of importance, and on the other hand to obtain early information of the discharge of patients whom the personal health services might be able to assist.

Home Helps.

The Home Help Service has grown greatly during the year, and the demand for it has increased 500%. It is now proving necessary to exercise restriction on the type of case for which Home Help is provided. The practice adopted is to give first consideration to a confinement and to emergency surgical or medical cases where the mother of the household is incapacitated. Chronic cases are allowed Home Help after the above needs have been fulfilled. The chronic sick can thus obtain help only intermittently and this is not altogether satisfactory. However, the full establishment of Home Helps has been clearly laid down and must be adhered to; there is some prospect that it might be increased in the near future.



P A R T S E V E N .

MENTAL HEALTH.

Mental health is now a responsibility of a Sub-Committee of the County Council. Work under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 and 1930, has been undertaken by a Duly Authorised Officer living in Pontefract, and we have had one Mental Deficiency Social Worker, Miss Simons, for work under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

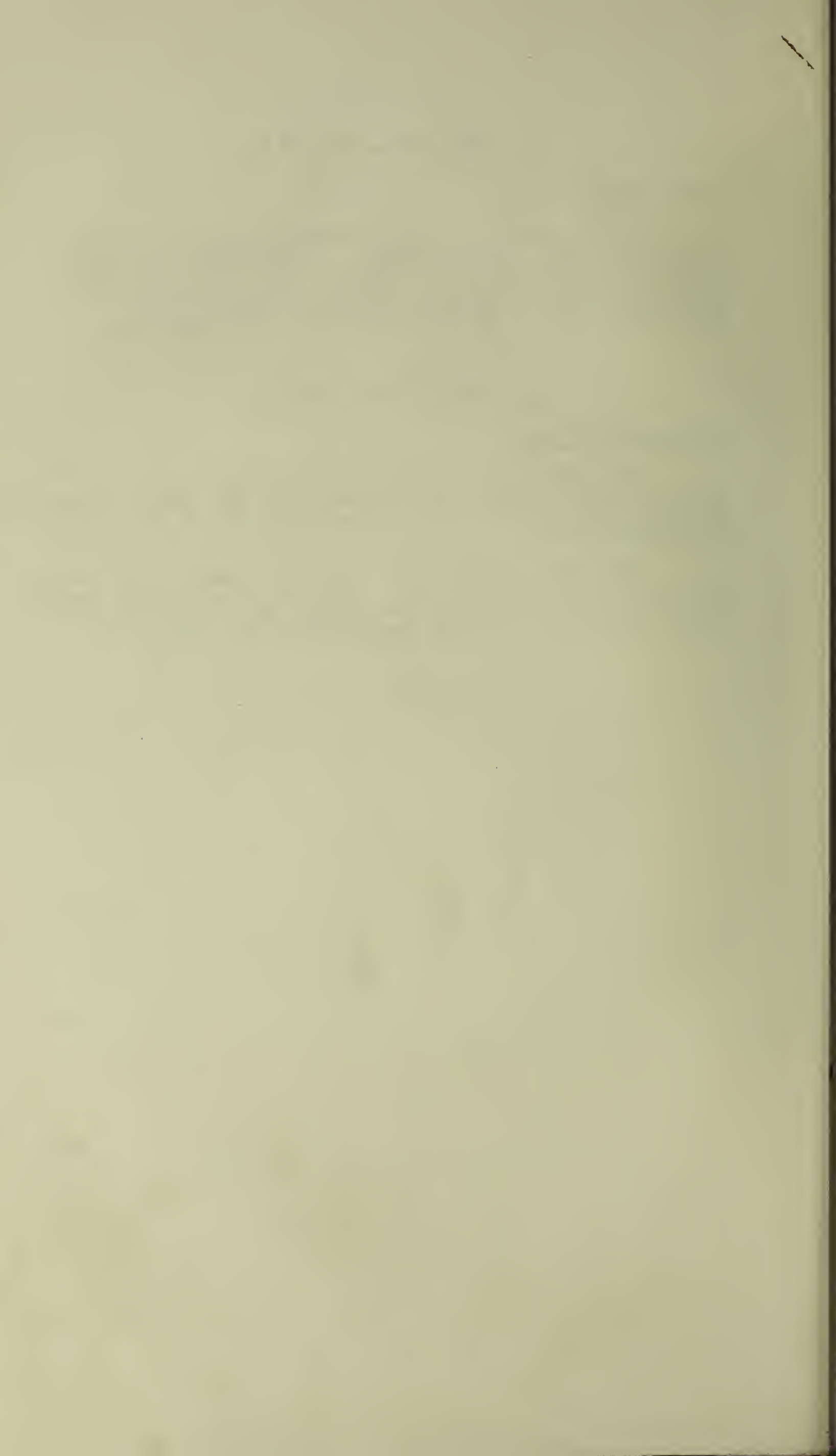
P A R T E I G H T .

AMBULANCE SERVICES.

The Ambulance Service of the Borough is now operated on an agency basis on behalf of the County Council, and its administration is the responsibility of the County Ambulance Officer.

The call on this service has been exceedingly heavy and has increased greatly as a result of the National Health Service Act, 1946, coming into operation. An additional driver was taken on to the staff during the year.

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BOROUGH OF PONTEFRACT

T W E L F T H

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

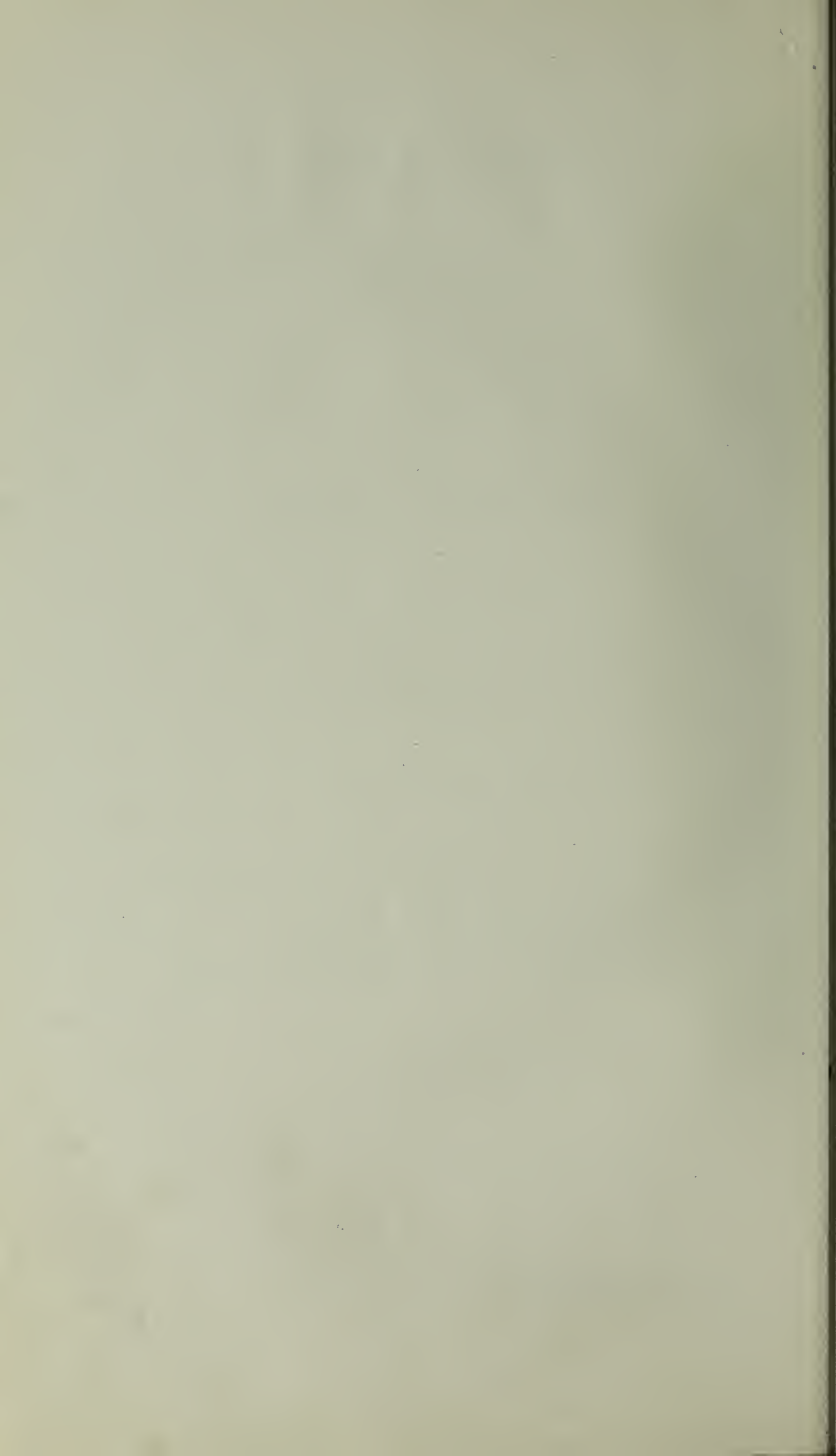
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Year Ended the Thirty-First December, 1949

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

and including Information for the use of
the Medical Officer of Health pursuant
to the Requirements of the Sanitary
Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Municipal Offices,
Pontefract.



BOROUGH OF PONTEFRAC T

Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee,
and the Medical Officer of Health.

Gentlemen,

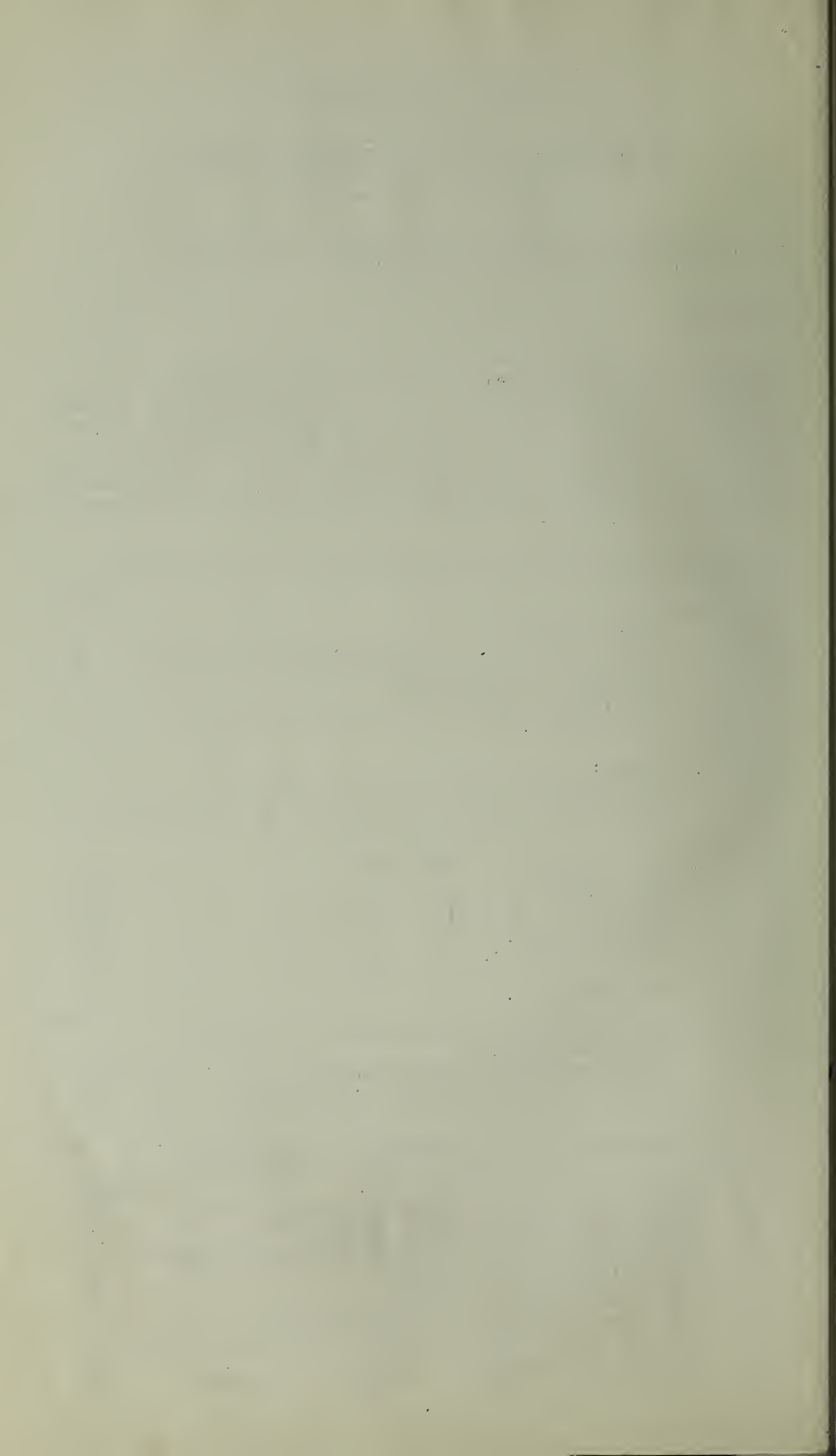
I have pleasure in submitting for your information and consideration this my Twelfth Annual Report on Sanitary Administration in the Borough. In it you will find an outline of the work done by the Department, and some indication of the results achieved, during the year ended 31st December, 1949. The Report discusses a number of environmental factors which play an important part in the health and welfare of our Community and in some cases indicates lines on which further development is considered desirable.

The subject matter of the Report is presented under the following headings, in the order given:-

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PART ONE

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply

A sufficient and constant supply of wholesome water was distributed throughout the district by the Corporation during the year, the supply for domestic use being of the order of 28 gallons per head per day.

The supply was sampled regularly for both chemical analysis and bacteriological examination. 36 samples of chlorinated water going into supply were submitted to bacteriological examination: 35 were reported upon as Class 1 waters and one fell into Class 3 (non-faecal coli).

Twenty samples of raw waters (i.e. before chlorination) taken from source were classified as indicated in Table 1:

Table 1. Bacteriological Classification of Water Samples.

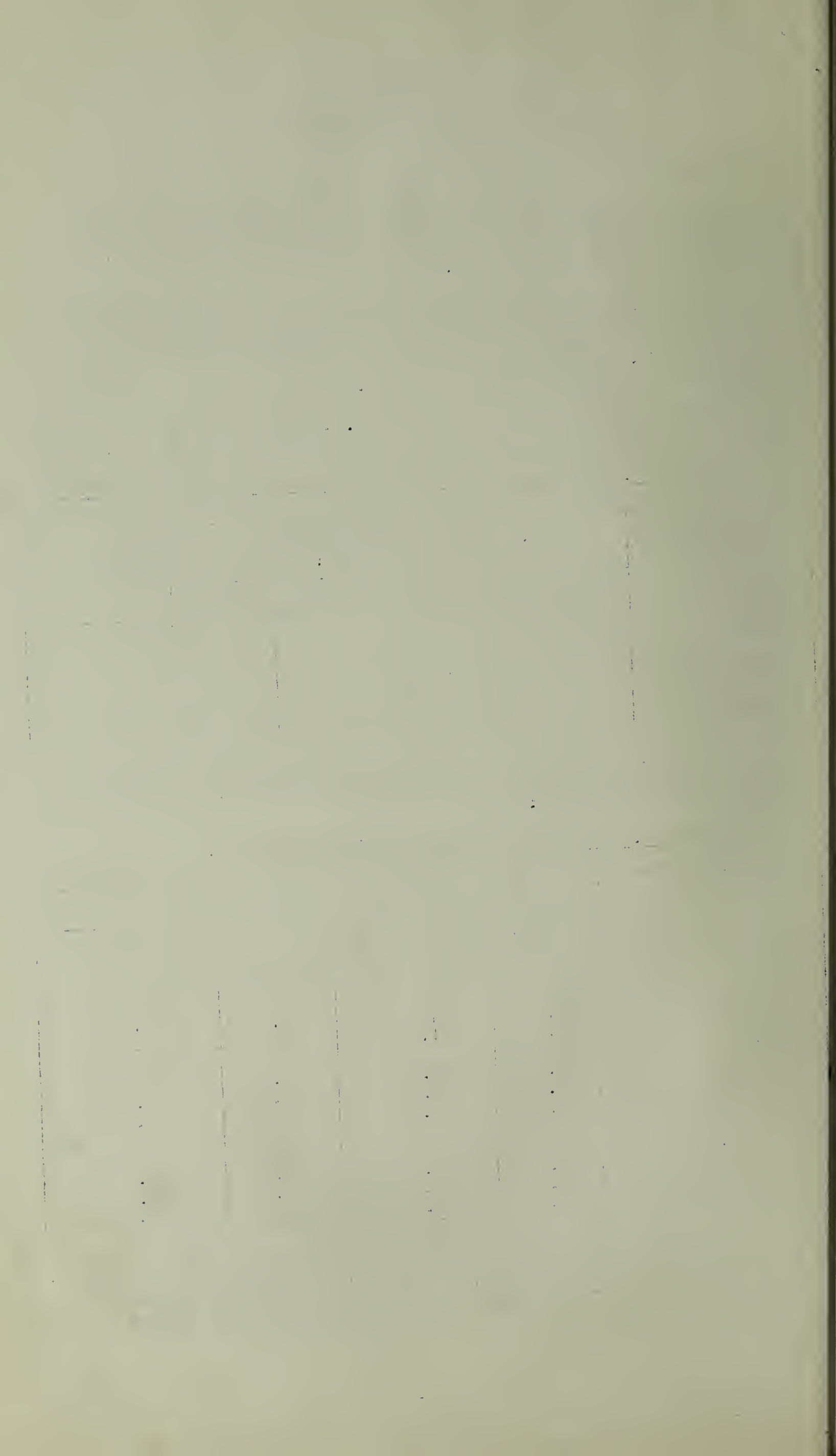
Source of raw water	No. of Samples falling into the Classes named:				Total Samples taken
	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	
Roall	6	-	-	-	6
Eggborough	6	-	-	-	6
Tanshelf	6	-	2	-	8

Twenty-one samples (including at least 5 taken direct from each source) were submitted to chemical analysis, and Table 2 gives typical results:

Table 2. Chemical Analysis of Water Samples.

Parts per 100,000 -	Results of Analysis of Samples taken -			
	At Source of Supply			From service pipe (mixed supply)
	Roall	Eggborough	Tanshelf	
Total solids	42.0	24.0	98.0	30.0
Chloride	2.8	1.9	5.0	2.3
Nitrite	-	-	-	-
Nitrate	0.32	0.16	1.05	trace
Free ammonia	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002
Albuminoid ammonia	0.002	0.002	0.004	0.002
Poisonous metals	-	-	-	-
Hardness:				
Permanent	9.0	3.4	25.5	7.0
Temporary	17.0	10.8	26.5	14.2
Total	26.0	14.2	52.0	21.2

These chemical data indicate waters of good organic quality. Tanshelf water is very hard: during 1949 it constituted only 4% of the total water supply. It is anticipated that this auxiliary source will be no longer used when the New Works



at Heck are completed. None of the Corporation's waters is plumbo-solvent. The pH values of the mixed supply have ranged from 7.0 to 7.6.

Only one house in the Borough is not connected to the public supply. These premises are away from the Corporation's main, and are served by a private well. Only four houses in the Borough are served by outside stand-pipes, and these properties are scheduled for clearance under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1936. The position may be tabulated as follows:

Table 3. Houses served by Public or Private Water Supplies.

Water Supplied -	No. of dwellinghouses	Estimated Population
From public main:		
(a) Direct to houses	6,151	23,115
(b) By means of stand-pipes	4	12
From private source	1	3

Swimming Baths. Sanitary Condition of Water.

Periodic sampling of water from the Public Swimming Baths was done throughout the season. With one exception the results were highly satisfactory bacteriologically: as figures given below will show, this was to be expected with the high chlorine dosage given.

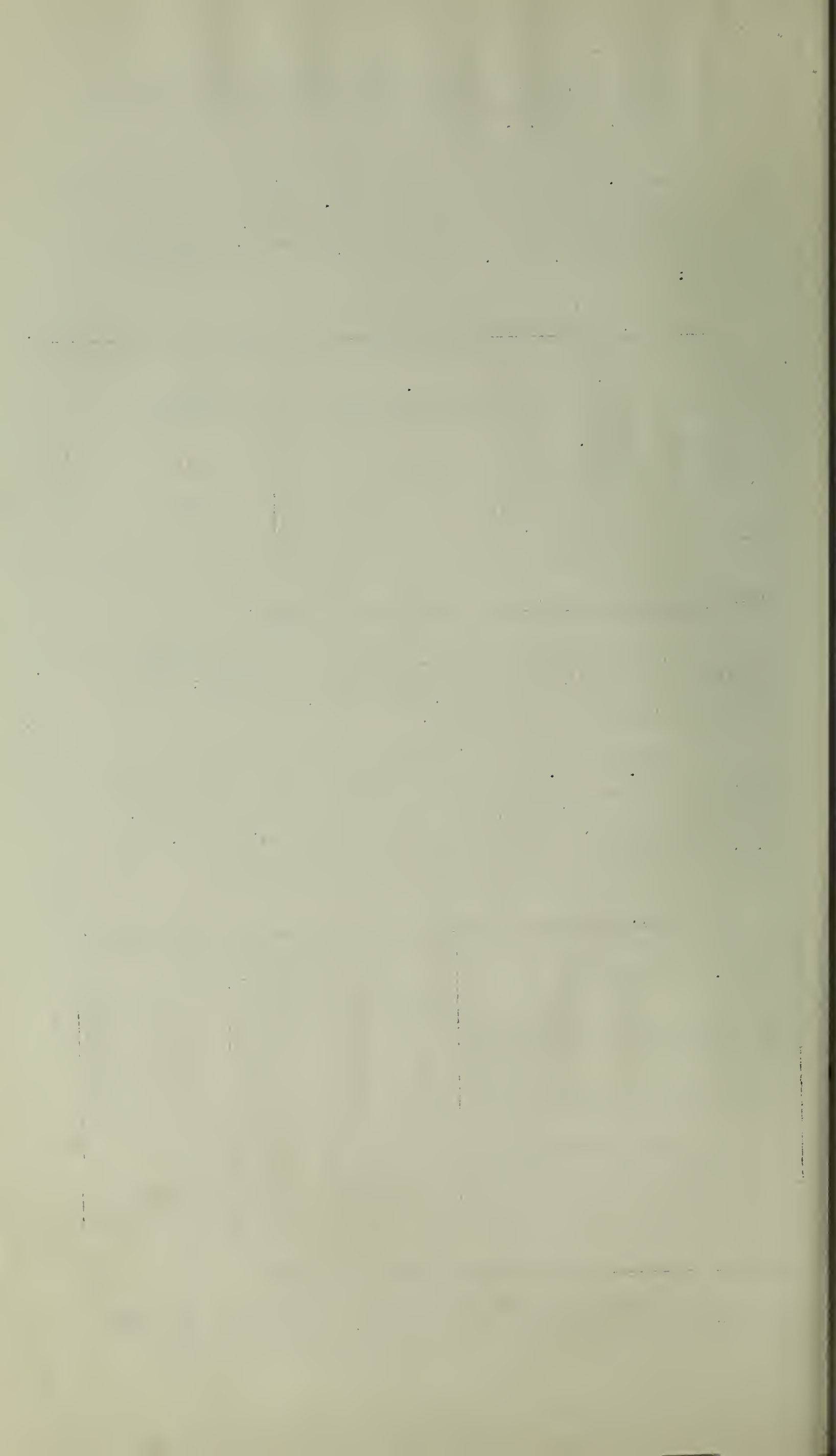
The Ministry of Health's Standard for residual chlorine content is 0.2 to 0.5 parts per million, and it is desirable that this maximum figure should be reached each morning and not allowed to fall below the lower limit at any time the baths are in use. pH values should range between 7.6 and 8.0. The results of samples submitted for examination for chlorine content and pH value are given in Table 4.

Table 4. Chemical Examinations of Swimming Bath Waters.

No. of Samples -	Examined for -	
	Residual Chlorine	pH value
Not reaching the prescribed minimum	4	23
Within the prescribed limits	3	0
Exceeding the prescribed maximum	16	0
Total	23	23

General Sanitation and Abatement of Nuisances.

All built-up areas in the Borough are sewered, and only 37 houses are not connected to sewers. Only 21 closets of the conservancy type remain, these being isolated cases



where a sewer is not reasonably available. The remainder are on the water-carriage system and, in the great majority of cases, are of a modern type. Many drainage improvements have been effected, and figures relating to inspections made, and notices served, will be found in Part V of the Report.

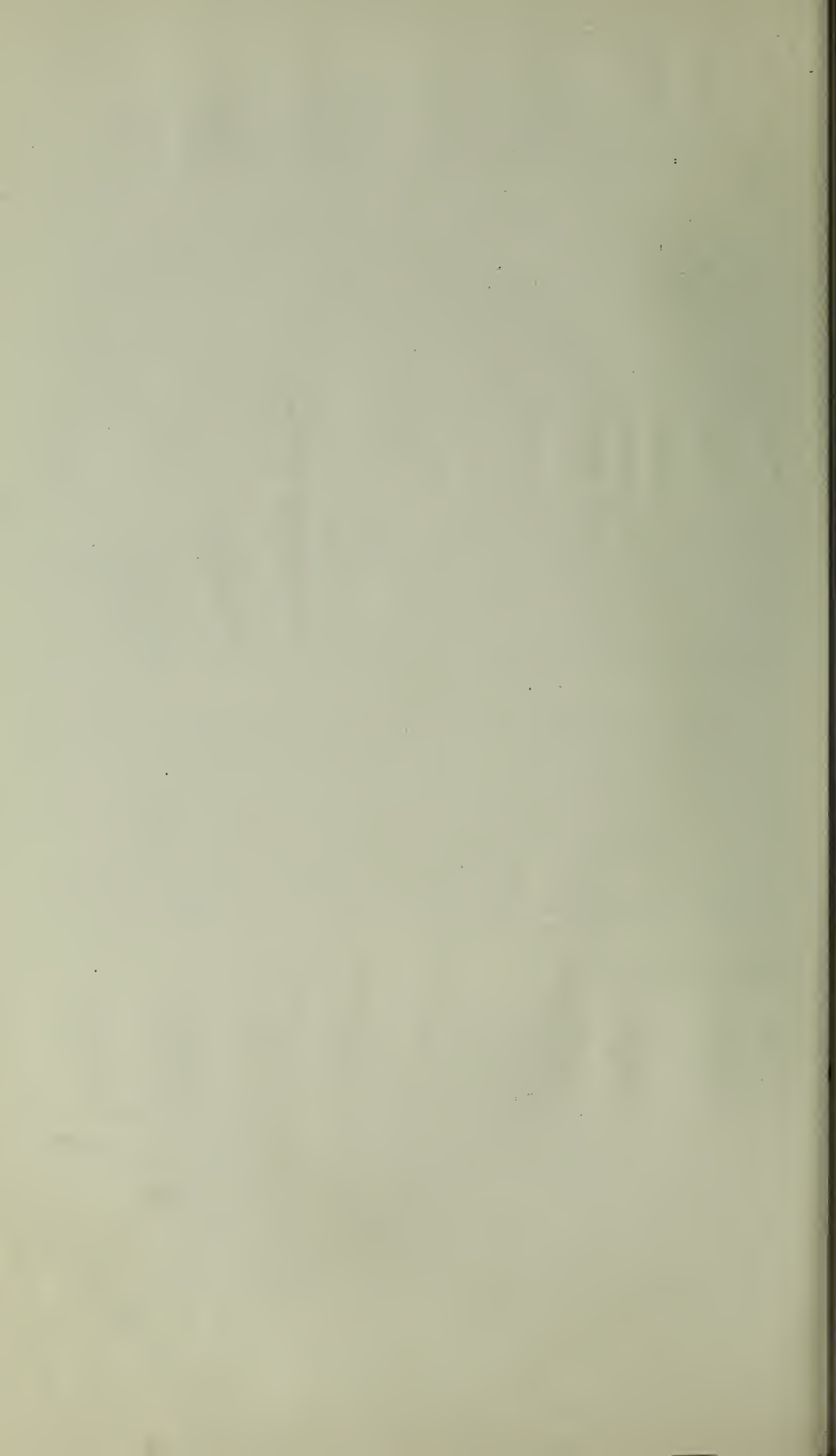
So far as is known there are no dry-ashpits in use in the Borough: all properties are served by metal dustbins of approved specification. Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, empowers local authorities to require the owner or the occupier of a building to provide a dustbin for the reception of house refuse, and either may appeal against a local authority's requirement. It has been the practice here, almost without exception, for the owner to provide dustbins; but in recent months a number of owners, in consequence of decisions in the Courts, have suggested that this should now be an occupier's responsibility. As the matter now stands each case must be taken on its merits, with the possibility of an appeal: the alternative is a Municipal Bin Scheme which, so far, has not commended itself to the Corporation.

232 nuisances (including 'statutory nuisances' and other insanitary conditions referred to in the Public Health Act as 'nuisances', but excluding housing defects dealt with under the Housing Act) were found during the year, and 40 outstanding from the previous year gave a total of 272 needing abatement. 256 of these had been abated by the end of the year. Unsatisfactory conditions dealt with as 'nuisances' under the Public Health Act are usually of a more urgent nature than those remedied under the Housing Act, and most owners responded with reasonable promptitude to notices served.

Six trades scheduled in section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as 'Offensive Trades' were carried on in the Borough during the year. These trades were conducted with a minimum of nuisance, although one trade not scheduled as 'offensive' - the processing of kitchen waste - was again responsible for considerable nuisance from time to time. The firm concerned, operating under Board of Trade Licence, were apparently being sent more material than their plant was designed to take, and there was failure to treat effluvia efficiently. Temporary measures were taken to abate the nuisance and permanent measures promised. This matter will be reviewed in the next Report.

Atmospheric Pollution

The Corporation have again taken an active interest in this subject not only from the 'local nuisance' point of view but from the wider county and national aspect. The Council are represented on the West Riding of Yorkshire Regional Smoke Abatement Committee and on its Executive Committee, and sent representatives to the Annual Conference of the National Smoke Abatement Society. Pursuant to their powers under section 105 of the Public Health Act, 1936, they participate in the investigation of problems related to atmospheric pollution: a standard deposit-gauge and two lead-peroxide instruments for the measurement of sulphur dioxide have been exposed throughout the year, and the Corporation have agreed to the installation of a smoke filter for the measurement of suspended impurity. By the end of the year a site had been agreed and the apparatus was on order.



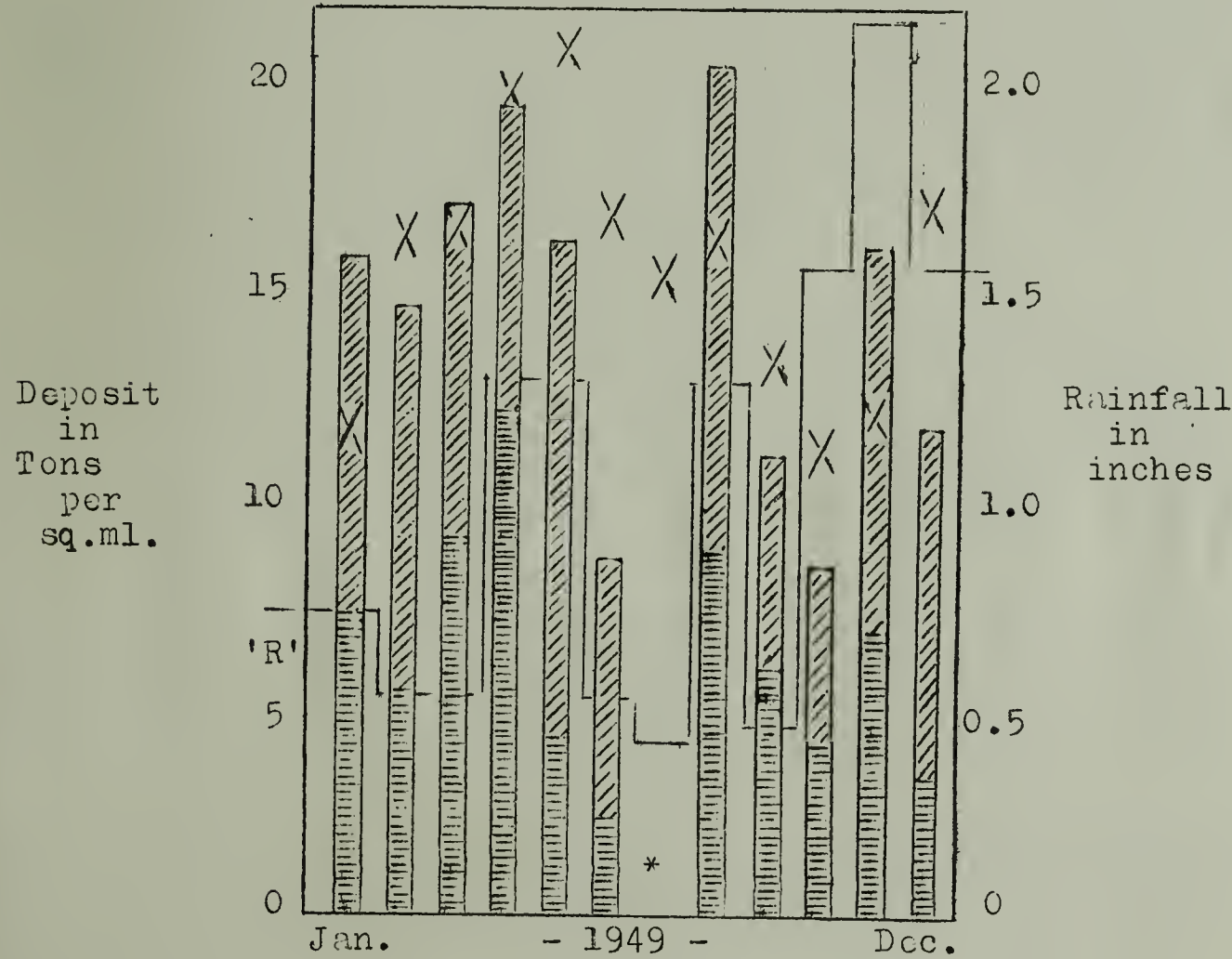
Some years will elapse before the full significance of much of the data collected will become apparent, but the trend shown in Table 5 is, at least, an encouraging start. It is unfortunate that records are not available for the years 1941 to 1945.

Table 5. Total Soot-Deposit Records.

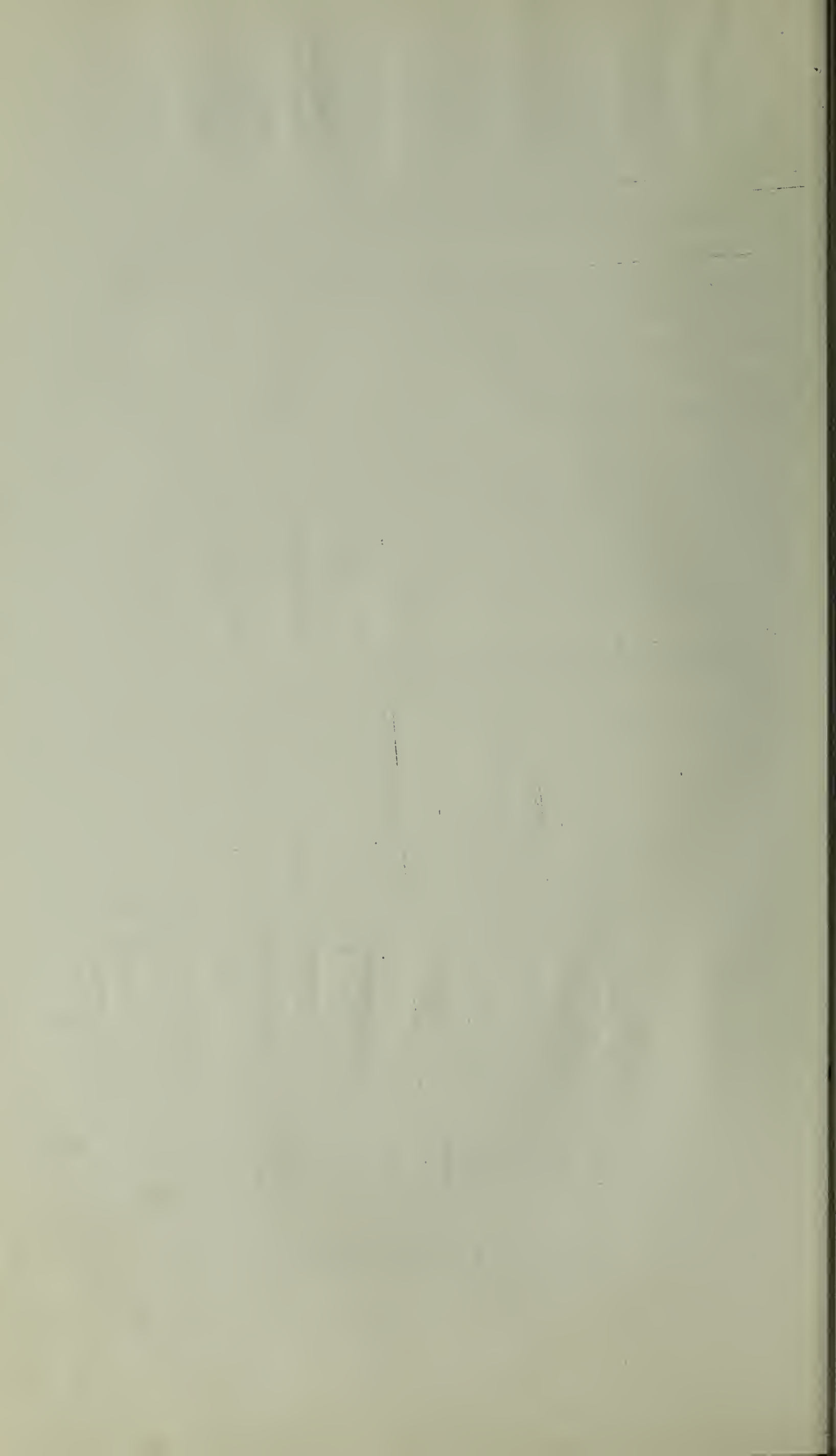
Period	Total Deposit in tons per square mile
Year ending June, 1940	262
Mean of three years ending December, 1948	194
Year ending December, 1949	176

Figure 1 shows in graphical form the total solids deposited monthly during 1949 and the monthly averages over the four years 1946-49. The columns represent by their height the amount of deposit, and the X's show the average figure. Monthly rainfall during 1949, indicated by the line 'R' provides an interesting comparison. Monthly soluble deposit is denoted by horizontal shading in the lower portion of the columns:

Figure 1. Monthly Deposit Data.



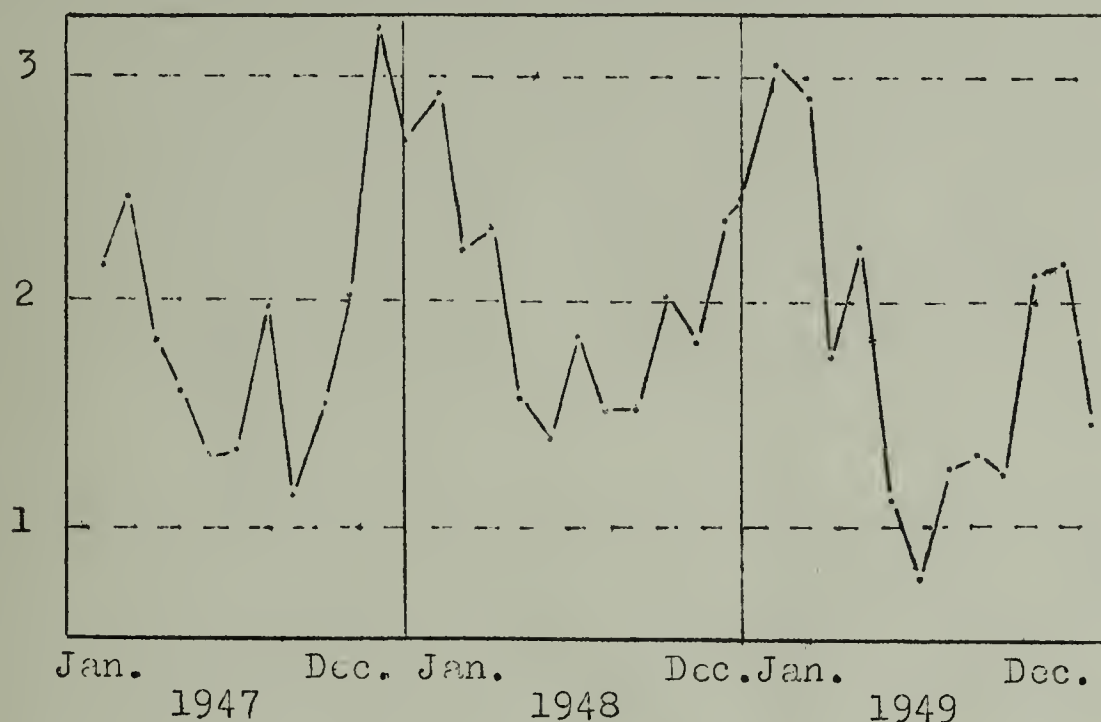
*July figure not available
(average of 3 years included
in Table 5)



The amount of sulphur dioxide emitted from chimneys may be considered as proportional to the amount of coal burnt. The graph (Figure 2) shows clearly the seasonal variation - minimal in the summer months, when much less domestic coal is burnt. The data is from the lead-peroxide instrument sited at Headlands Lane:

Figure 2. . Yearly Cycle of Sulphur Dioxide.

Sulphation:
mg. of SO_3
per day
per 100 cm^2

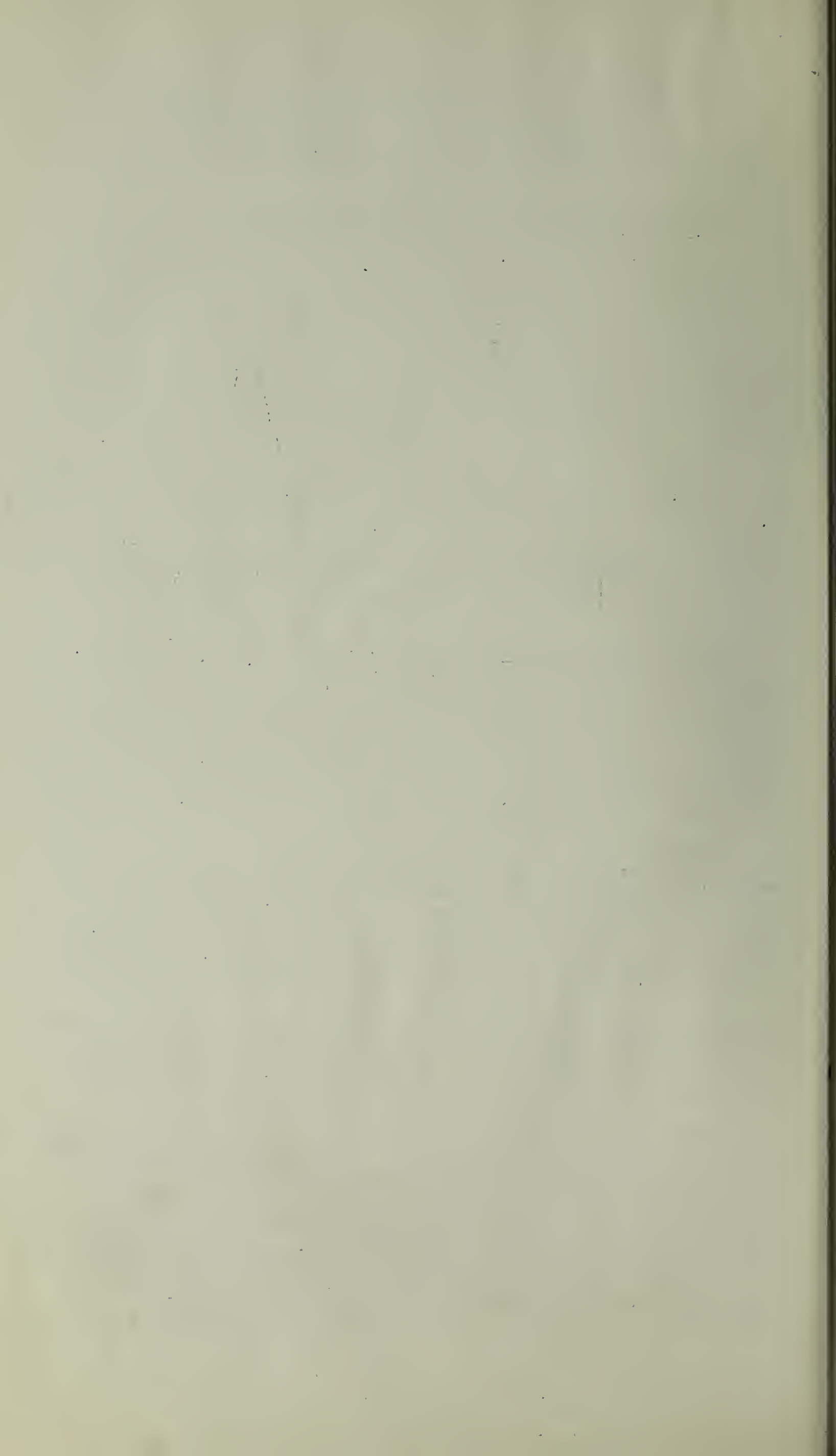


The domestic smoke problem is one that presents difficulty in Pontefract where many householders receive coal as part of their remuneration. Increased use of gas and electricity for cooking and space-heating are to be encouraged, and in this respect the Corporation have given a lead in houses erected by them. The Housing Act of 1949 should give an impetus to smoke abatement by providing for the payment of grants for house improvement, including the replacement of inefficient cooking and heating appliances by modern types.

Practical work done during the year was, however, principally concerned with industrial smoke. 68 formal smoke observations, each of thirty minutes duration, were made, 11 of which showed emission in excess of the byelaw limit of two minutes black smoke within the observation period. Six of these occurred at one factory, and in August a statutory notice was served. New boiler plant was purchased, but had not been assembled at the end of the year.

The chimney about which most complaint is made is not necessarily the source of greatest pollution: a chimney can be so situated that only moderate emissions of smoke are likely to give rise to complaint; and efforts were made to minimise smoke emission from one such chimney in the Borough.

A burning spoilbank at the Prince of Wales Colliery was under observation during the year. In May, 1948, following the receipt of complaints in the Ladybalk district, a lead-peroxide instrument for estimating the activity of sulphur dioxide in the area had been installed there. The data obtained has been compared with that from a similar instrument situated at Headlands Lane, where no nuisance has been noted, and there is no significant difference between the two sets of readings. Steps are being taken to minimise the possibility of nuisance, and the whole matter is under observation.



Factories, Workplaces and Shops.

Arrangements for the health and comfort of workers in their places of employment have again been given their due attention during the year. The routine inspection of factories and shops has been continued, and on no occasion has it been necessary to resort to statutory powers to secure improvements found to be necessary.

The term 'factory' as used in the Factories Act, 1937, includes all premises where articles are made, altered or repaired for purposes of gain. There are 104 such premises on the Factory Register, at 86 of which mechanical power is used. 68 inspections were made during 1949; in 32 cases defects were found, and 27 defects were remedied during the year. The provisions of section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937, relating to means of escape in case of fire are administered by this Department. Three certificates of fitness were issued and five were amended during the course of the year.

The term 'workplace' as used in the Public Health Act, 1936, embraces offices, restaurant kitchens and most other premises in which persons are employed; but excludes domestic premises, factories and (except for 'overcrowding' purposes) shops to which the Shops Act, 1934, applies. A routine inspection of these premises was not made, but when unsatisfactory conditions came to my notice in the course of other duties, the requisite remedial measures were taken.

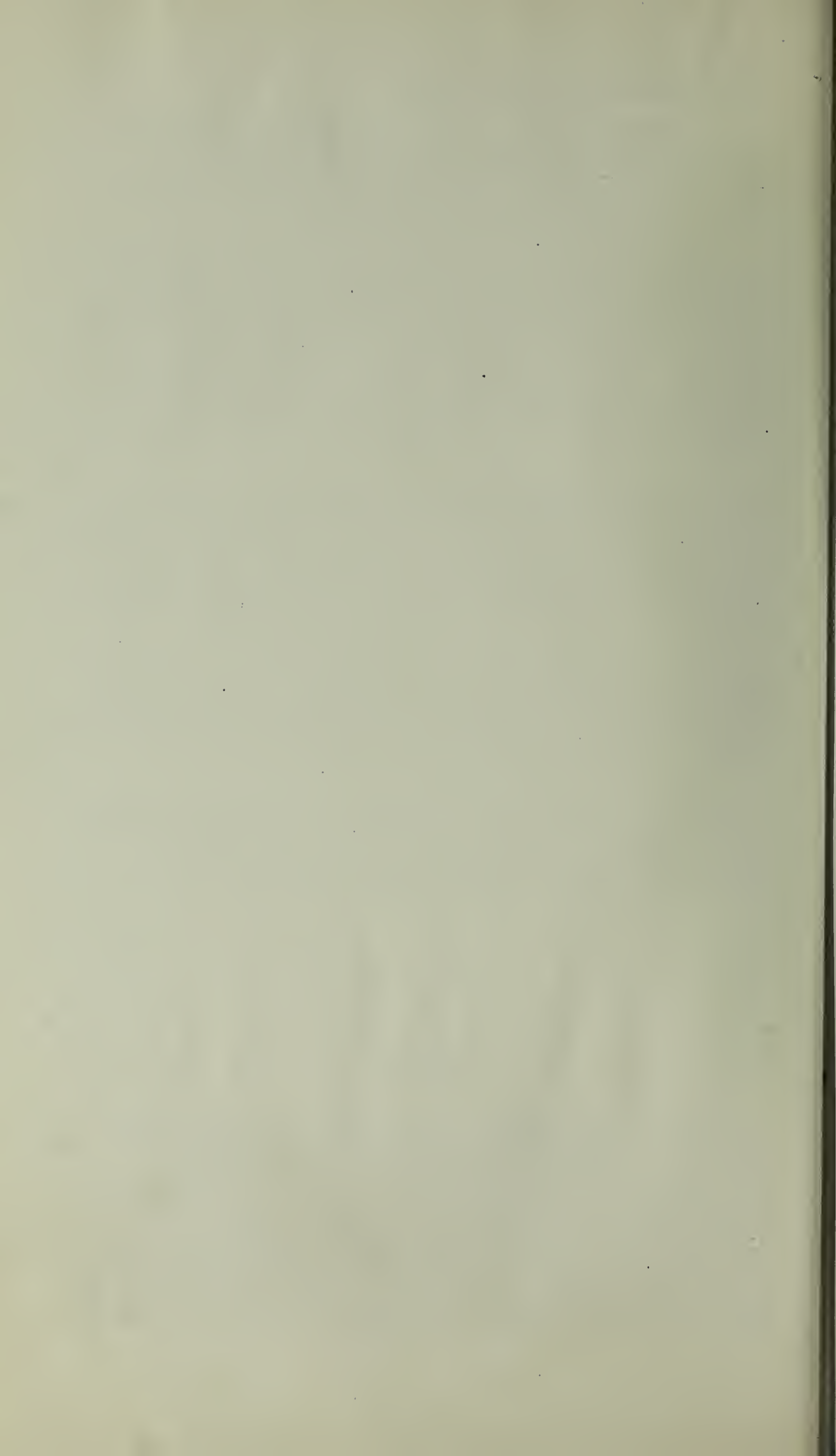
The term 'shop' includes warehouses used in connection with wholesale or retail trade, refreshment houses, lending libraries and hairdressing establishments. There are 380 shop premises on the Register, and the Shops Act, 1934 applies to 234 of these. 135 visits for the investigation of welfare arrangements were made in 1949.

Following the recommendations of the Gowers Committee (appointed to enquire into the statutory provisions relating to the health, welfare and safety of employed persons in shops, offices and workplaces) it may be that sanitary authorities' responsibilities in this connection will be considerably extended in the near future.

PART TWO

HOUSING

Satisfactory housing is fundamental to healthy living, and much of the Department's activity has been connected directly or indirectly with the improvement of housing conditions. Much has been achieved, particularly regarding the repair of houses which years of neglect - largely due to war and post-war conditions - had rendered unfit. The Housing Act of 1949 has opened up vast new possibilities for the improvement of houses which although structurally sound are lacking in conveniences and amenities considered essential to the modern house. By the time the next Annual Report is due it should be possible to estimate the degree of advantage that can be taken of these new powers.



General Conditions and Overcrowding.

Since post-war house building began, 622 houses have been erected in the Borough, as detailed in Table 6; but there is reasonable evidence that total housing need at the end of 1949 was greater than at the end of the previous year. The number of families wanting Corporation houses and who are at present living in lodgings rose from 550 to 600 during 1949. This latter figure may be taken to represent need, whilst the number of houses at present under construction is 114, with a further 62 to be started.

Table 6. New Housing Progress 1946-1949.

Year	No. of houses erected -		
	By the Corporation	By Private Enterprise	Total
1946	66	23	89
1947	158	29	187
1948	169	25	194
1949	137	15	152
Totals	530	92	622

The number of known cases of statutory overcrowding has fallen during the year: 22 new cases were added to the register and 41 were removed subsequent to abatement. The numbers of cases found and abated during the past five years are given in Table 7: it is shown that during this period 250 cases of statutory overcrowding have been abated, 181 of these as the result of Corporation rehousing.

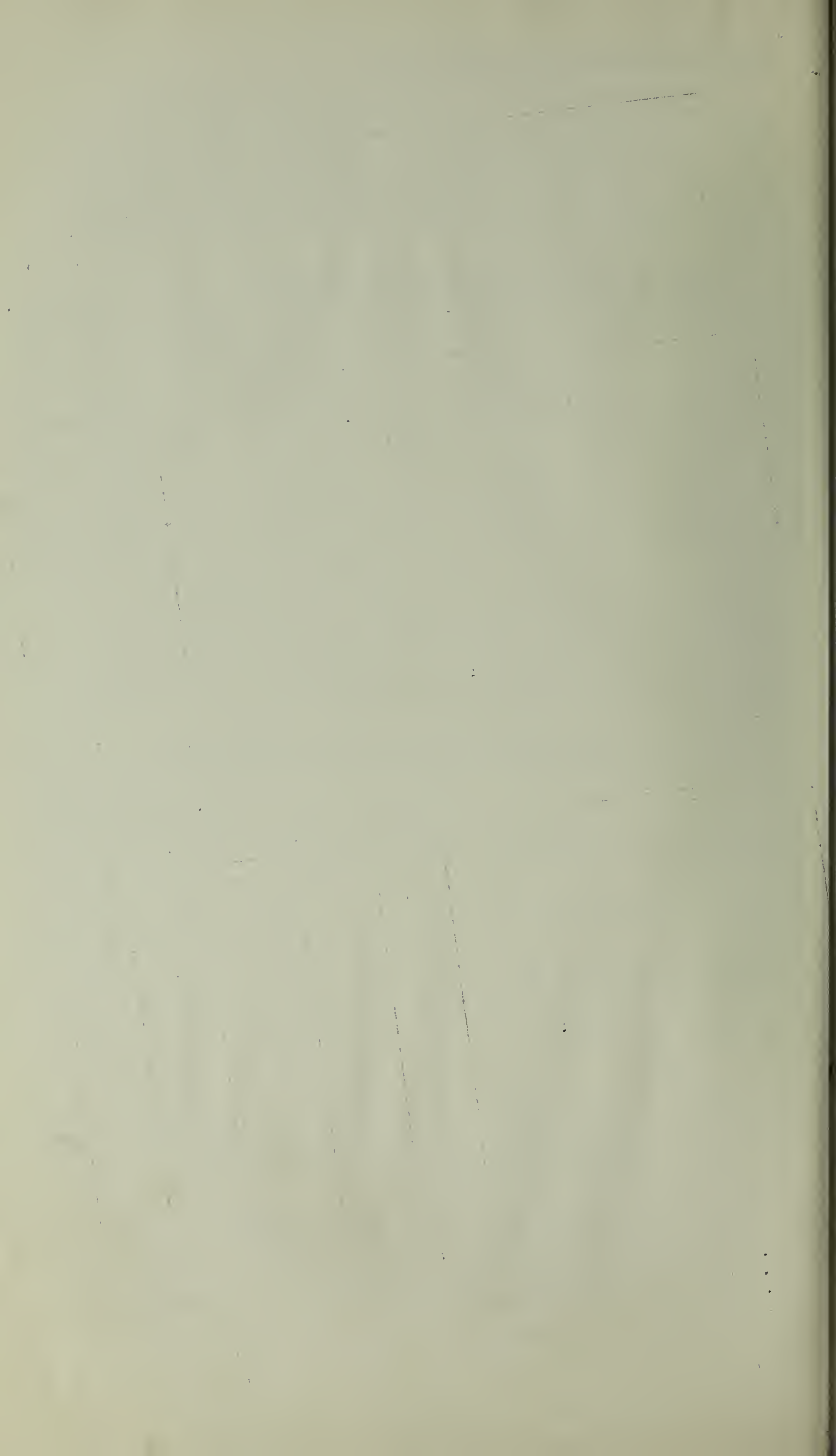
Table 7. Incidence and Abatement of Overcrowding.

No. of Cases -	Year				
	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
On register at beginning of year	32	90	82	13	58
Added to register during the year	62	73	13	87	22
Abated during the year:					
By Corporation rehousing	2	65	66	12	36
By other means	2	16	16	30	5
Total	4	81	82	42	41
On register at end of year	90	82	13	58	39

The following details add to the information given on this subject in respect of the year 1949:-

No. of dwellings overcrowded* at end of year	39
No. of families living in these dwellings	66
No. of persons concerned	375
No. of cases abated during the year	41
No. of persons concerned	340

*On Housing Act Standard.



The Corporation have also given consideration to many cases which although not overcrowded on the Housing Act Standard - necessarily a low one at the present time - had insufficient bedroom accommodation to allow proper segregation of the sexes. The Housing Act Standard taking into consideration, as it does, all habitable rooms, does not adequately assess 'need' where two separate families live together in one house. In such cases a 'bedroom standard' becomes necessary, and the Corporation have applied such a standard in many cases: 109 houses - 74% of the total number of lettings - were used during the year to abate overcrowding of both classes.

Inspection, Repair and Clearance of Unfit Houses.

The house-to-house inspection (and subsequent repair) of property in the Borough has not been possible in recent years, but during the year under review this practice was re-introduced in certain parts of the town where there appeared to be the greatest need. In the Tanshelf District alone, working street by street, 60 houses received comprehensive repair following action taken by the Department, and more were in process of repair at the end of the year.

In addition to 101 houses at which defects were remedied and which have already been included in figures given under the heading of 'nuisances', defective conditions were remedied at 374 houses - 215 of these comprehensively, following informal or statutory action under the Housing Act, 1936. The fact that statutory action was necessary in 71 cases before the Corporation's requirements were complied with is indicative of the continued disinclination on the part of many owners to attend to housing repairs. Pre-war rents and post-war cost of repairs are given as the reasons for the attitude taken.

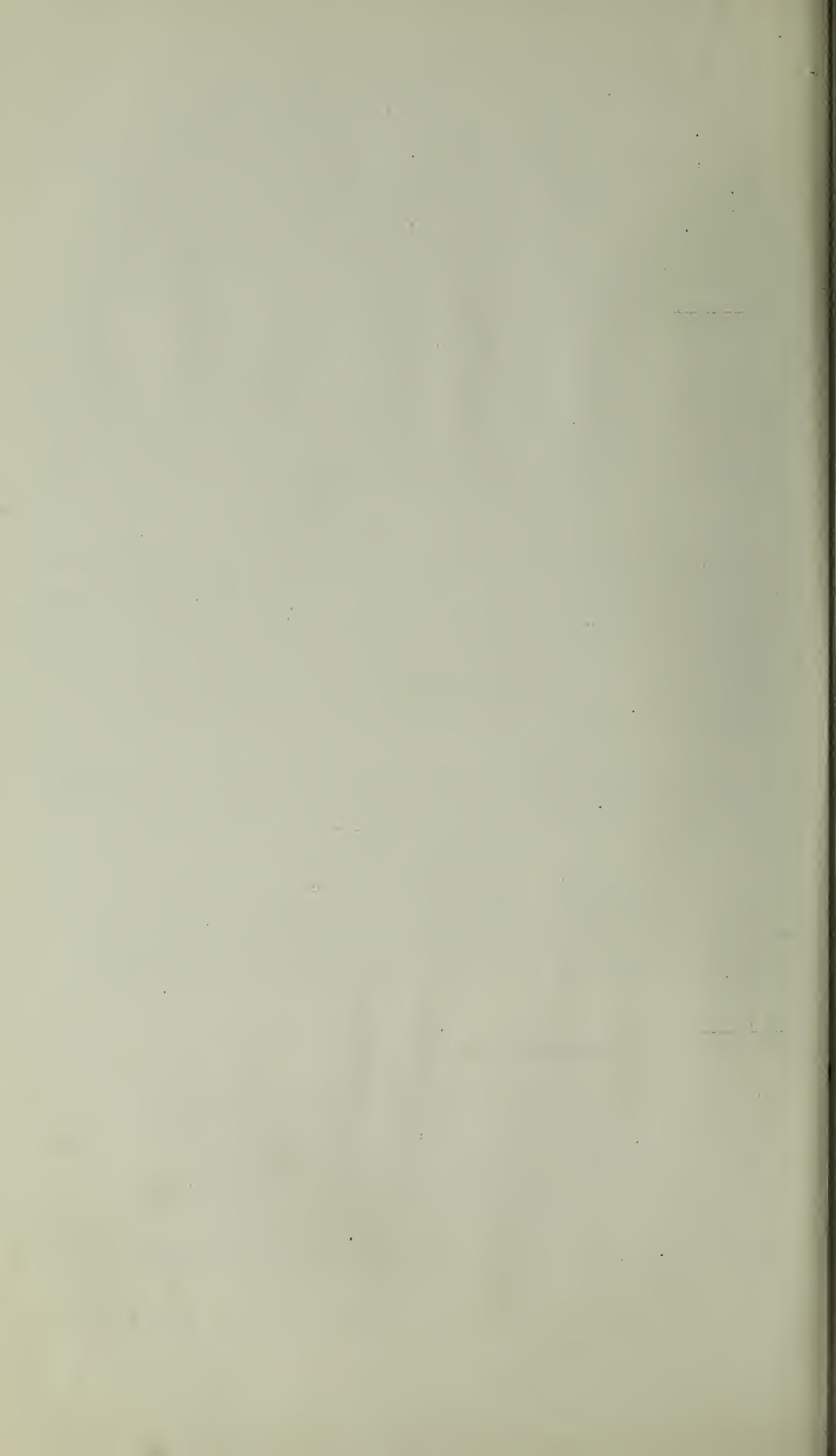
During the year 23 houses were reported to the Corporation as unfit for habitation and not capable of repair at reasonable cost, and in all cases action was taken with the view to demolition or closing. The tenants from 13 unfit houses were rehoused by the Corporation during 1949.

There are 98 houses in the Borough which should be closed as soon as the housing position permits. The Corporation unsuccessfully approached the Ministry of Health for a special allocation of houses to replace these, and it was subsequently decided that to enable such property to be dealt with, 20% of Corporation lettings should go to Class C applicants.

Eradication of Verminous Conditions.

The Housing Committee has continued its practice of giving disinfection treatment to furniture which is verminous or likely to be verminous, before allowing otherwise suitable applicants to take up occupation of Corporation houses. The Corporation's Contractors carry out the removal and disinfest with hydrogen cyanide before unloading. 15 such cases were dealt with in 1949.

Verminous conditions were found at 17 houses during 1949 - 3 Corporation and 14 privately-owned; appropriate action was taken.



PART THREE

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

The local sanitary authority's duty to protect the public against the marketing of unsound food is probably the least spectacular and yet among the most useful services it provides. The importance of food supervision was never greater than during recent years when food shortages tended to make the housewife less demanding in matters of quality and hygiene; and during the period under review not less than one third of the available time in the Department was spent on this aspect of sanitation.

The work is also one in which considerable development may be expected; and, as information detailed below will show, the Corporation are anxious to be in the vanguard of improvement in all matters relating to food hygiene. New legislation which became operative during the year took away certain duties respecting milk supplies, but added and intensified duties in other aspects of that work, principally with regard to the retailing of both graded and ungraded milks.

Meat Inspection

The Borough does not possess its own Public Abattoir, although it is the declared policy of the Council to remedy this deficiency as soon as the relevant controls permit. Under the Ministry of Food's Meat and Livestock Control Scheme there are in Pontefract both collecting and slaughtering centres. The slaughtering centre at Newtown serves retailers and manufacturers in the Borough and surrounding districts, covering a population of some 54,000. The 9,752 carcasses dressed at the Centre during the year were examined (together with some 29,000 organs) by Officers of your Department qualified in Meat Inspection. Table 8 gives the numbers of animals inspected and the numbers of animals in which disease was found.

A total of 89 whole carcasses, 103 part carcasses and 2,511 organs and parts were condemned, the total weight being 29 tons, 10 cwt., 0 qtrs., 20 lbs. Of this quantity 14 tons, 13 cwt., 3 qtrs., 25 lbs. was rationed meat, representing some 10 days rations for every person in the Borough. It should be said that whilst every precaution is taken to prevent unfit meat from reaching the consumer, equal care is taken to ensure that no meat is unnecessarily condemned.

The condemnations classified in Table 8 as 'Other Conditions' included bruising, cysticercus bovis, decomposition, dropsy, fever, inflammation, injury, jaundice, pathological emaciation, pyaemia, septicæmia, swine erysipelas and tumours. 'Other conditions' in organs were principally abscesses and parasitic disorders.

In carcasses the principal cause of condemnation was tuberculosis, 39.4% of the total weight of meat condemned from all causes being due to this infection. In organs the principal cause of condemnation was cirrhosis caused by liver fluke: 557 bovine livers, i.e. 28.2% of the total number examined, showed lesions of invasion by this parasite, and 5,627 lbs. of liver, some 27.3% of the total weight examined, was condemned as unfit for human consumption.

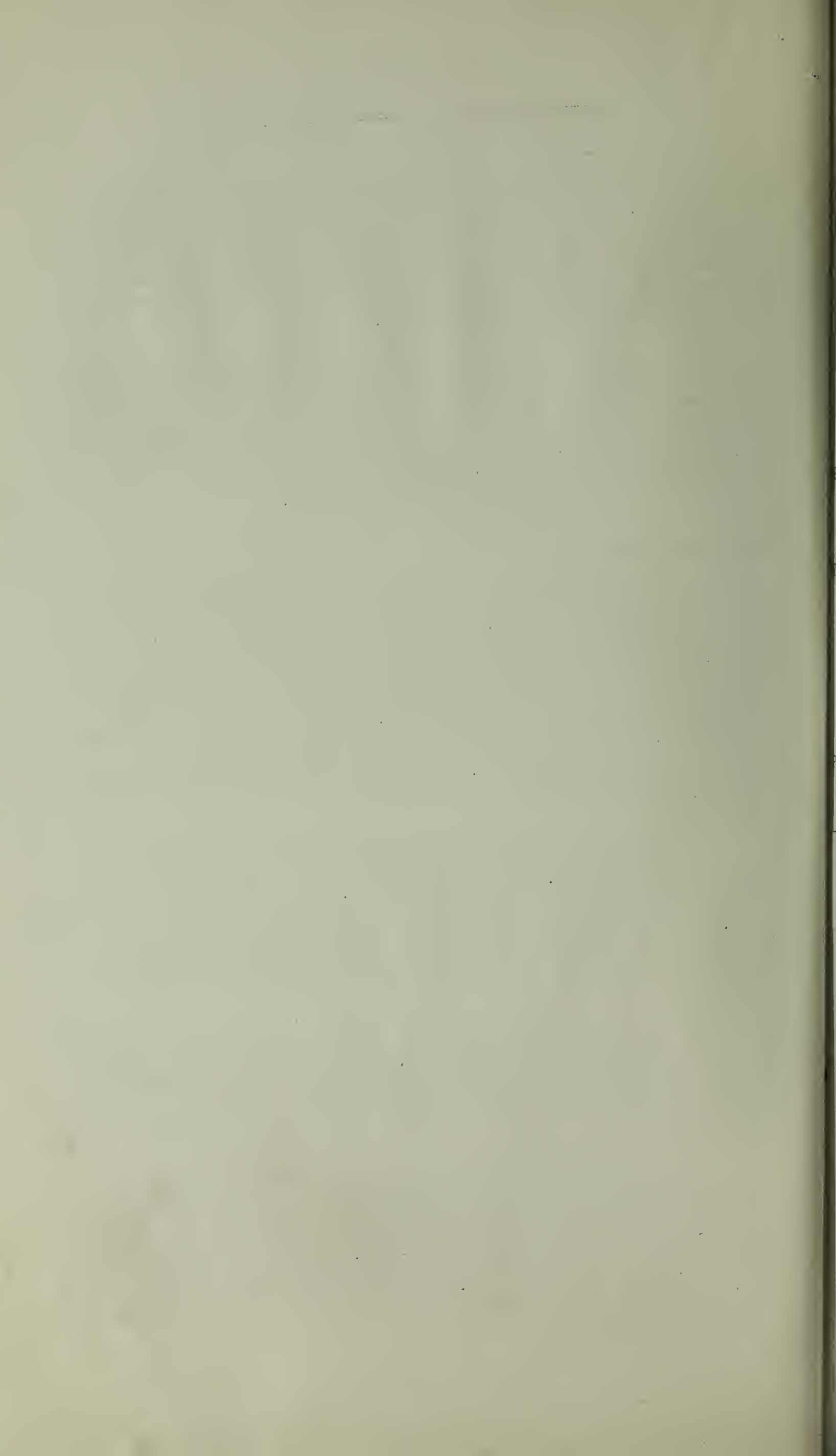


Table 8. Record of Meat Inspections and Incidence of Disease.

Class of Animal	Cattle (excluding cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,577	398	799	6,705	273
Number inspected	1,577	398	799	6,705	273
All diseases except Tuberculosis:					
(i) Whole carcasses condemned	1	4	6	15	11
(ii) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	518	82	10	184	59
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	32.9	21.6	2.0	3.0	25.7
Tuberculosis only:					
(iii) Whole carcasses condemned	19	28	1	-	4
(iv) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	207	136	3	-	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	14.3	41.2	0.5	-	5.1

The statistics given include the following numbers of animals which arrived at the Centre for casualty slaughter:-

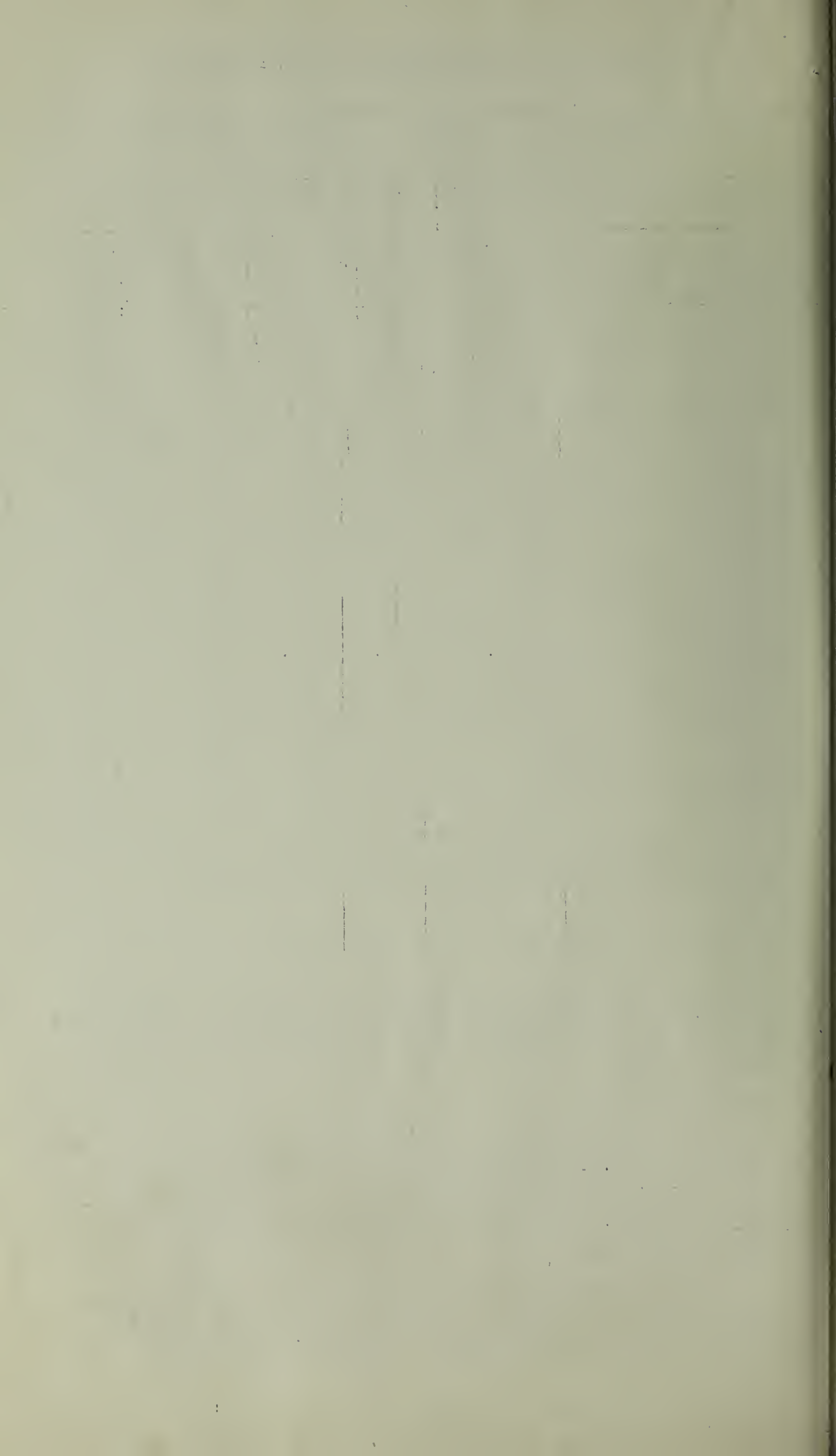
Cattle	67,	Calves	14
Sheep and lambs	70,	Pigs	100

The higher incidence of disease in this class of animal is illustrated by the following figures relating to cattle: of the 67 carcasses examined, 29 whole carcasses and organs were condemned, i.e. 43.3% against a figure for non-casualty cattle of 1.3%.

Cysticercus bovis.

In November, 1948, the Ministry of Food informed local authorities of the need for special examination of beef carcasses for signs of this condition. A rigid inspection was continued throughout the year under review, but it was not until June that the first case was noted. Following that, 21 further cases were found, giving a percentage incidence of 1.11.

In all cases the invasion was mild (less than 10 cysts) and localised as follows: 16 in the cheek muscles only; 5 in the muscles of the cheek and heart; and 1 in the muscles of the cheek and in the carcass. Affected parts were



condemned and the remaining organs and parts were subjected to suitable treatment before release for human consumption, cysticercus bovis being the cystic stage of the taenia saginata in man.

From Table 8 it will be noted that all animals slaughtered at the Centre were given post-mortem examination. It has not been the practice to give every animal an ante-mortem examination; but frequent ante-mortem examinations were made, and the slaughterhouse Manager continued to co-operate fully in this respect by notifying the Department of the arrival at the Centre of animals which had some abnormality.

The Humane Slaughter of Animals.

This matter can be considered under the following headings: Transport, Accommodation and Slaughter. Any evidence of injury during transport is noted and if necessary, the appropriate authority notified. Lairage accommodation at the Abattoir is inadequate, and this predisposes to overcrowding. I am satisfied that every reasonable care is taken to prevent suffering arising from the lack of accommodation, but only with the erection of new premises, designed to give a high standard of animal welfare, will the desired end be achieved.

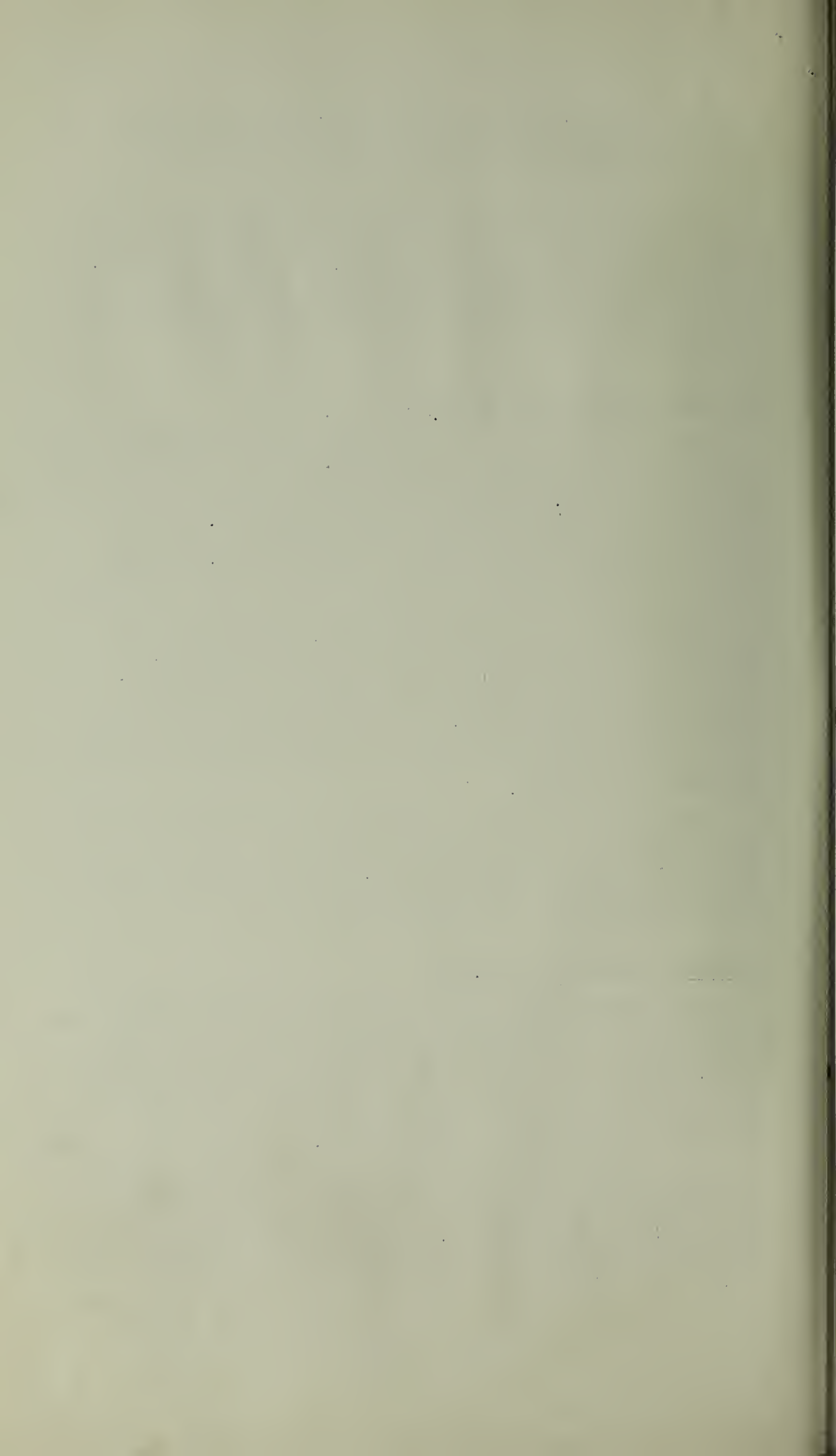
The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, provides for the licensing of 'fit and proper' persons as slaughtermen, and 21 such persons hold licences granted by the Council. No case of failure to use approved methods of mechanical stunning has come to notice. Stunning pens are not provided at the Abattoir and are not considered practicable in the limited space available, but every endeavour is made to ensure that the requirements of the law relating to humane slaughter are observed.

The humane treatment of animals to be slaughtered is in itself a subject worthy of consideration in a civilised community: it might be added, however, that the proper treatment of animals immediately prior to slaughter, and at slaughter itself, plays a significant part in the flavour and keeping quality of the subsequent product.

Transport and Handling of Meat.

The transport and consequent handling of meat leaving the abattoir for distribution to retailers in the Borough has received due supervision during the year. This meat is transported under model conditions in a vehicle built for the purpose: it is metal lined; carcasses hang from runners, and need not touch the floor of the vehicle. I understand that very few vehicles of this type are available, and Pontefract is fortunate in this respect.

In November, 1949, the Ministry of Food called attention to the importance of correct meat transport and handling, and reminded local authorities of their statutory obligations in relation to these matters. So far as this Borough is concerned it can be said that no contravention of Article 21 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, has been noted.



Milk Supply

The year under review was a significant one with regard to milk supply. New legislation became operative in the course of the year which rearranged the duties between the various authorities concerned. The Corporation retained the supervision of distribution and biological sampling for tubercle bacilli.

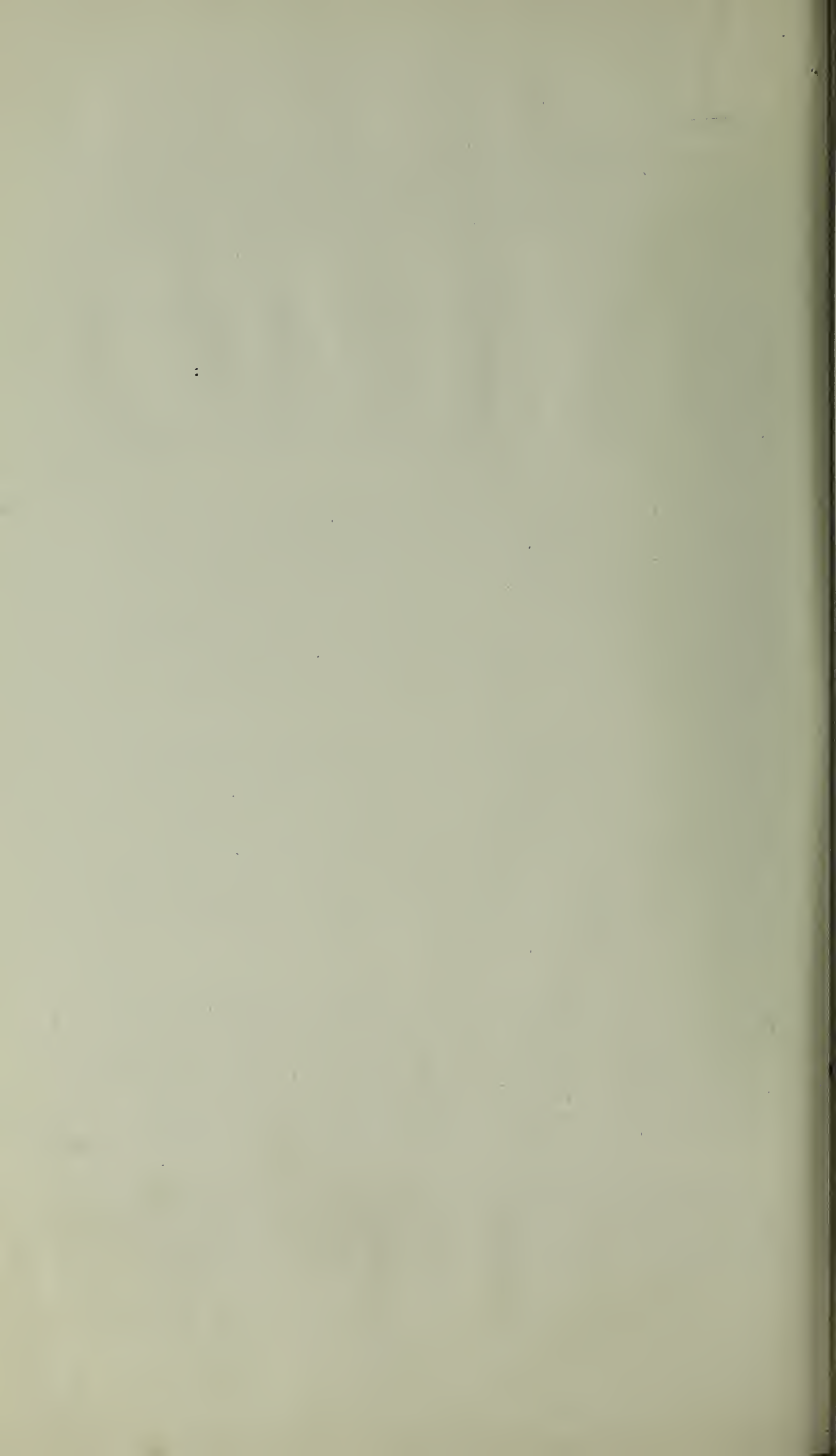
There were eleven milk farms in the Borough when taken over by the Ministry on the 1st October, 1949, and some 206 cattle were kept. The bulk of the milk retailed in the Borough comes from sources considerable distances away: some is pasteurised (or sterilised) before arrival here; the rest is pasteurised by the Pontefract Industrial Co-operative Society at their Horsefair Dairy. This plant had been licensed by the Corporation, and operated successfully: of 29 samples submitted to the statutory tests only two were reported upon adversely.

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, it is the Corporation's duty to register all distributors and certain classes of dairies: 22 distributors and 3 dairies were registered. Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, it is the duty of the Corporation to grant dealers' licences authorising the sale of graded milks: at the end of the year 20 licences were in force, 9 in respect of 'tuberculin tested (pasteurised)' and 2 in respect of 'pasteurised' milk.

The value of pasteurisation at the present stage of development of milk production in this Country should not be lost sight of. It has been estimated that some 2,000 deaths, mostly in children, occur annually from tuberculosis of bovine origin; and this is indicative of the need, generally, for efficient heat-treatment prior to sale. Bulk samples were taken from three herds in the Borough - the milk was not to receive heat treatment - and submitted to biological examination; in none of these cases, however, were tubercle bacilli proved to be present. Sampling for this type of examination will be extended as soon as laboratory facilities permit.

During 1949, 398 cows were examined at the Abattoir, 40 of which had been sent in for emergency slaughter. In 30 cases the whole carcass and organs were condemned for generalised tuberculosis, 18 of these being from cows sent in for emergency slaughter; and only 9 of these 18 were sent in under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order, 1938: i.e., only 9 cows out of 30 discovered at the Abattoir to be severely infected with tuberculosis had been eliminated as the result of routine veterinary inspection of dairy herds.

It is the practice to notify the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture when a calf with congenital tuberculosis is found at the Abattoir, to enable the affected dam to be traced. Insistence on the proper identification of calves at collecting centres would be an advantage in this respect.



Ice-Cream

There were three ice-cream factories in the Borough at the opening of 1949 although one ceased to manufacture during the year. Frequent inspections were made during the manufacturing season. The factories were maintained in good condition, and there was a determined attempt to meet the local authority's requirements, although this did not always result in that degree of meticulous cleanliness which is essential when complex machinery is employed in a food manufacturing process.

There are 31 premises registered for storage and retail sale, at 27 of which the ice-cream is sold pre-wrapped. Eight premises were added to the register during 1949. Before registering premises the Corporation insist on a high standard of hygiene, including the provision of a constant supply of running hot water.

So far as the outdoor sale of ice-cream is concerned, the Corporation have informed vendors that the use of unenclosed sales units does not in their opinion conform to the standard envisaged by the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, and little difficulty has been experienced in securing the co-operation of traders in this respect.

There is still no test for the grading of ice-cream which, in the opinion of the Ministry of Health, is satisfactory for use as a statutory test for measuring bacteriological quality. For the guidance of Public Health Officers, however, the Ministry has prescribed a standard to which series of samples submitted to a methylene blue reduction test might reasonably be expected to conform. This informal grading has been used to secure improvements.

Other Foods

Meat and Milk and their products are singled out for special attention by sanitary authorities, but in the course of general inspection duties, or as the need arises, note is taken of other foods into which investigation is necessary. 'Other foods' condemned included canned foods, rabbits and fish; also liquorice confectionery damaged during transport.

The continued need to prevent wastage of food has again resulted in traders calling in Inspectors for an opinion on food which prior to the war they themselves would have rejected without official inspection. Regarding rationed goods, the retailer or wholesaler requires the certificate of the local authority's Officer before he can dispose of unfit foodstuffs. Food not fit for human consumption has been used, whenever possible and after suitable treatment, for animal feeding.

Food Premises

Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, lays down the principal hygienic conditions to be observed in most types of premises where foodstuffs are produced, stored or sold, and during the year the Department devoted a great deal of time to inspections and action under this section. A plan to visit all food premises in the Borough was started in August, 1948, and continued into 1949. The following Table gives an indication of the extent of the campaign, which covered all types of food premises: factories, warehouses, shops, restaurants, canteens, etc.

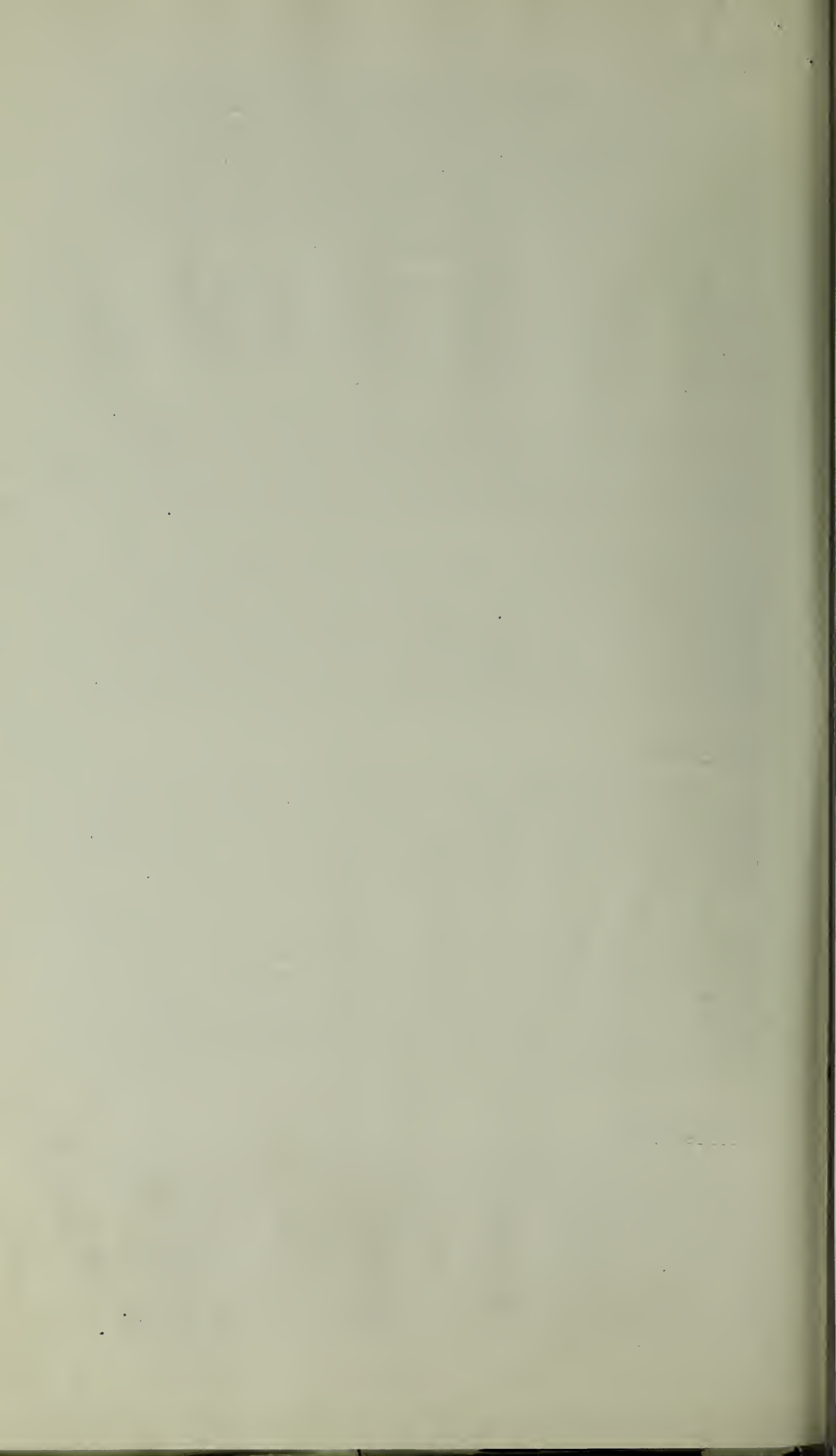
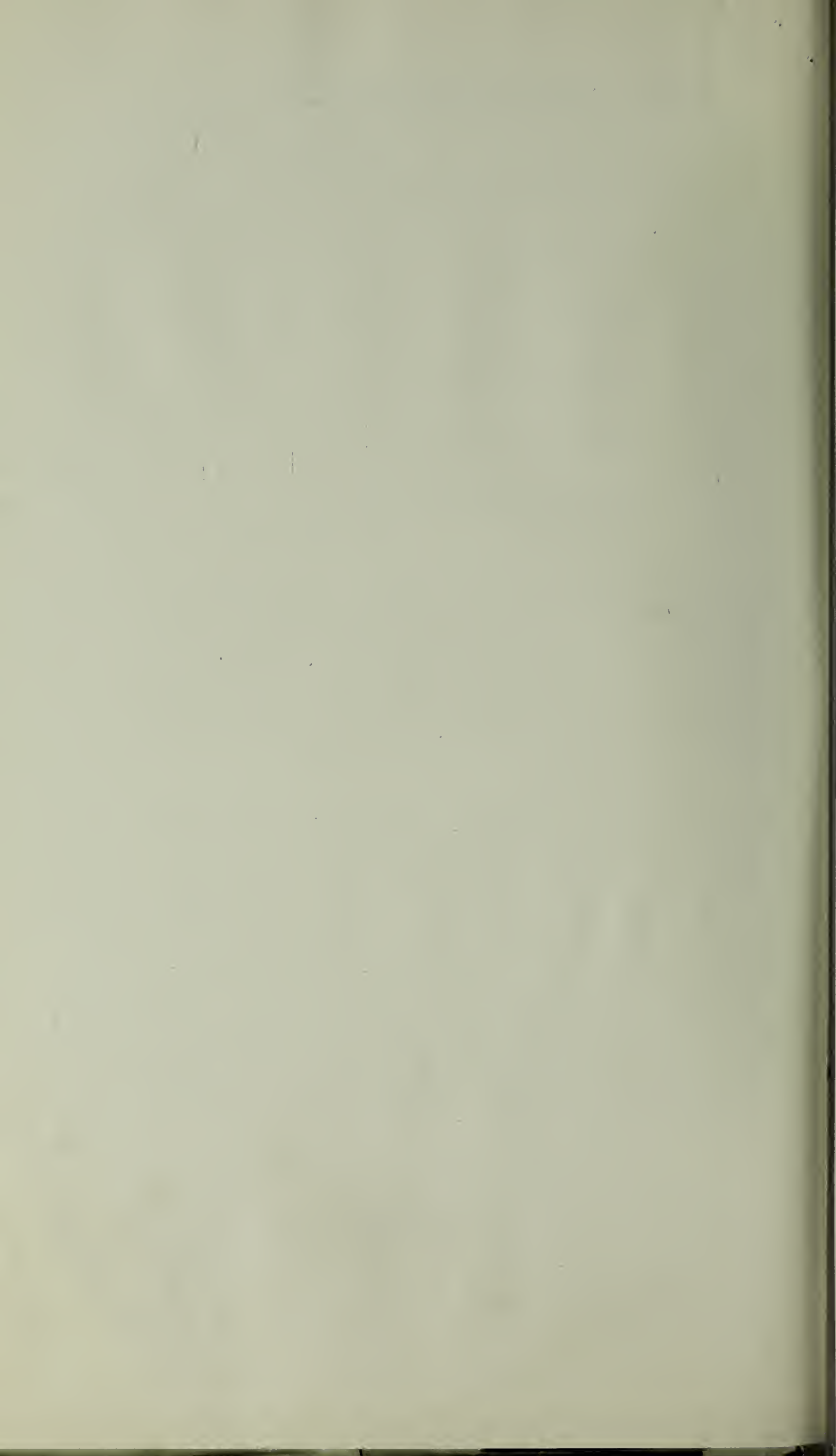


Table 9. Clean Food Campaign Records.

Inspections made and Defects noted and remedied	Year		Total
	1948	1949	
No. of visits paid to food premises	147	232	379
No. of different rooms inspected	285	307	592
No. of rooms in which defective conditions were noted	43	73	116
No. of defective conditions noted	57	112	169
No. of defective conditions remedied by the end of the year	16	99	115

A defect often met with was the lack of proper hand-washing facilities for staff engaged in handling food. The importance of frequent hand-washing was not always realised, and at a few premises neither soap nor clean towel could be produced for inspection. A supply of running water (hot and cold) was insisted upon in every case, and during the year water-heaters were installed in 22 shops. The response generally to matters raised during inspections was good, and the standard of hygiene in most food shops in the Borough is high.

Referring to Ministry of Food Circular M.F. 12/49 on the subject of Clean Food Campaigns, it may be said that up to the present time the Department has concentrated on its statutory responsibilities and has not engaged in such extra-legal activities as exhibitions, the formation of a Clean Food Guild or the organisation of classes for food handlers. Much health education work has been done among factory and shop staffs during the inspection of premises, plant and methods, and managements have been co-operative. Concerning Clean Food Guilds the writer doubts the wisdom of two standards of hygiene - one statutory, the other voluntary - and feels that the existing law reinforced by byelaws made under section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, will give scope for much useful work for some years. The Corporation have considered the Model Byelaws issued by the Ministry of Food and hope to have them operative within the Borough in 1950.



PART FOUR

RODENT CONTROL

The Corporation recognise the need for efficient control over rodent infestation in a Borough such as Pontefract where a variety of circumstances conspire to make the area vulnerable to infestation. Routine work was continued throughout the year and, if the level of the rat population in the Borough may be considered as being directly proportional to the number of complaints received, the position has not deteriorated.

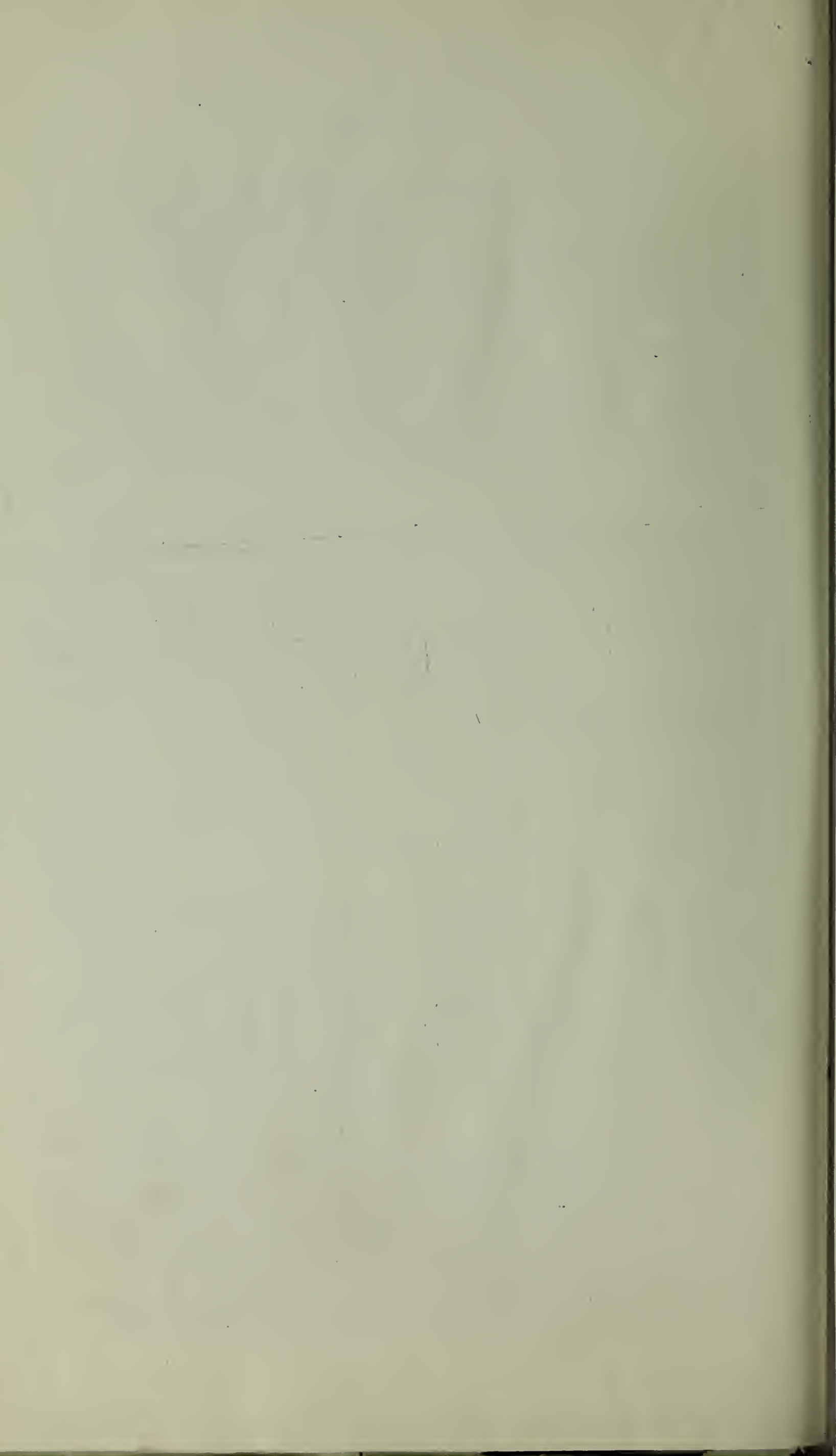
One whole-time operative was employed throughout the year, and Table 10 gives particulars of the infestations he cleared. (The term 'treatment' used in the Table comprises prebaiting with unpoisoned bait on four successive days, poisoning on the fifth day, removing excessive poison on the sixth day, and post-baiting on three successive days a fortnight later to test the efficiency of the treatment given.)

Table 10. Rodent Control Service: Infestation Records.

Degree of Infestation	No. of Infestations cleared	No. of these Infestations cleared after 1,2,3 or 4 treatments, respectively				Total No. of treatments given
		1	2	3	4	
Reservoir (rat population of over 200)	1	0	0	0	1	4
Major (20 - 200)	33	8	21	4	0	62
Minor (under 20)	104	82	19	0	3	132
Totals	138	90	40	4	4	198

The aim was the systematic discovery and elimination of rat colonies rather than the treatment of isolated infestations: this involved much preliminary work before actual treatments were started, but the results obtained were considered to be commensurate with the additional time spent on organisation. Total clearance was attempted in every case, as evidenced by the number of multiple treatments given: experience over a number of years has shown, however, that, on the scale the Corporation are able to tackle the work, re-infestation does occur on premises which are particularly liable to infestation by reason of the nature of the business carried on.

The Corporation has continued its membership of the Rodent Control Planning and Advisory Committee (Group No.11) which comprises representatives of seven local authorities in this area, and whose functions include those of stimulating and maintaining interest and activity throughout the area in rodent control administration. As Secretary of this Committee I know what has been attempted and what has been achieved; and can say that whilst useful work is being done, the interests of rodent control would be better served if the smaller authorities united for the purpose of carrying out their functions under legislation dealing with this service.



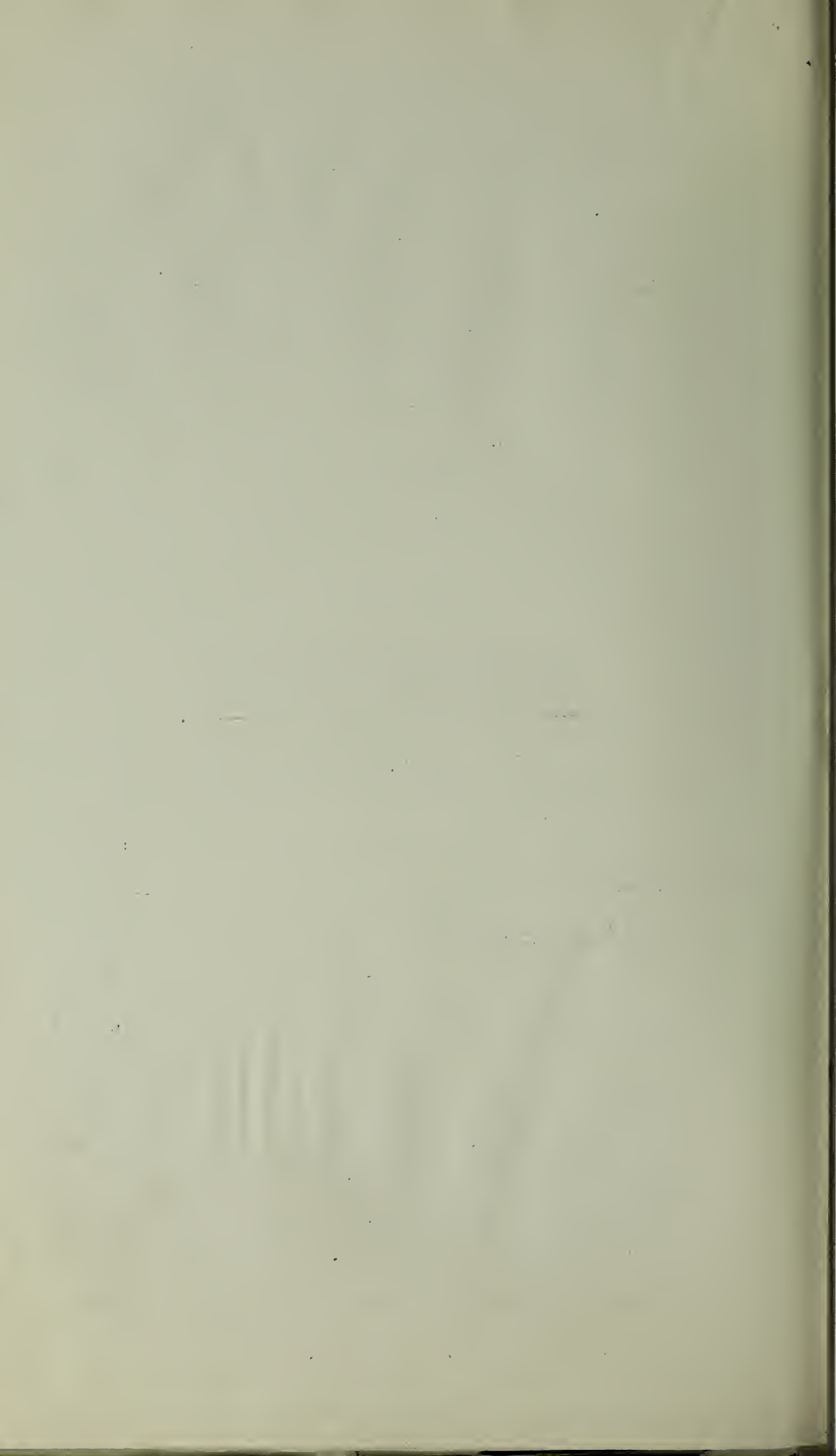
Rat or mouse infestation is often associated with unhygienic conditions, and along with the work of destruction every endeavour has been made to obtain improvements in general hygiene. It is gratifying to note that food premises have been found remarkably free from rodent infestation, largely due to the hygienic standard which is prevalent in the great majority of such premises in the Borough. Some attention has been given to the proofing of storage space and buildings generally, although much remains to be done in this connection. I have on more than one occasion referred to the potential harbourage offered by a town as old as Pontefract, and improvement must inevitably be gradual. The new Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, which becomes operative in 1950, gives additional power to deal with proofing, and armed with this it should be possible to make greater progress.

PART FIVE

Statement of Particulars furnished pursuant to Article 18 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

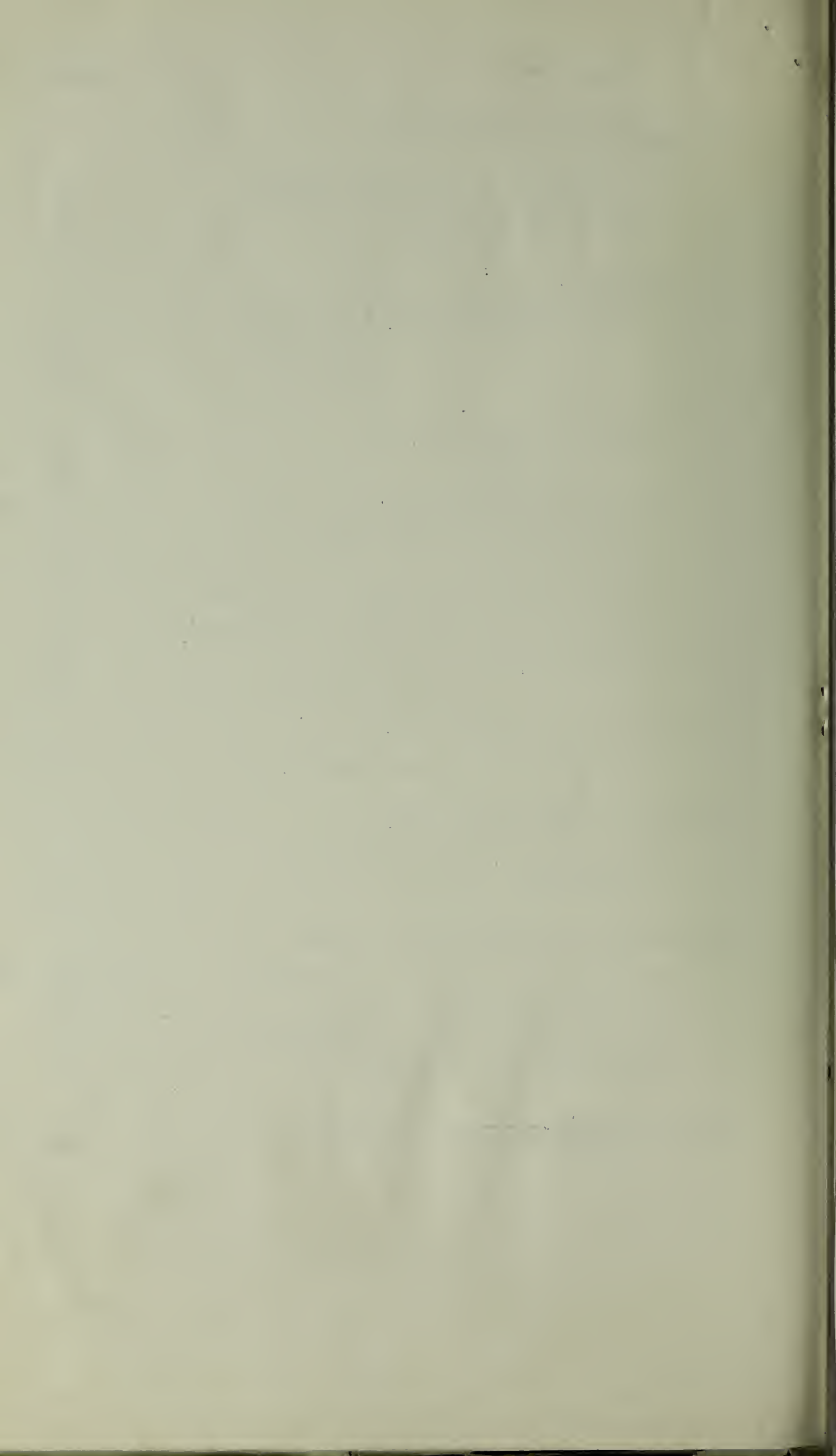
Number and Nature of Inspections made by the Corporation's Sanitary Inspectors and assistant Staff during 1949:

<u>Nature</u>	<u>Number</u>
<u>Public Health Act, 1936.</u>	
Regulated Premises Inspections:	
Common lodging-houses	7
Moveable dwellings and sites	9
Offensive trades	35
Statutory Nuisance Inspections:	
Initial inspections	361
Other inspections	242
Atmospheric Pollution:	
Industrial smoke observations	68
Visits to boiler plant	44
Pollution investigations (deposit and sulphur oxides sampling, etc.)	47
Verminous Infestation Inspections:	
Dwellinghouses - Corporation	41
Private	56
Other premises or articles	39
Infectious disease, etc., Enquiries:	63



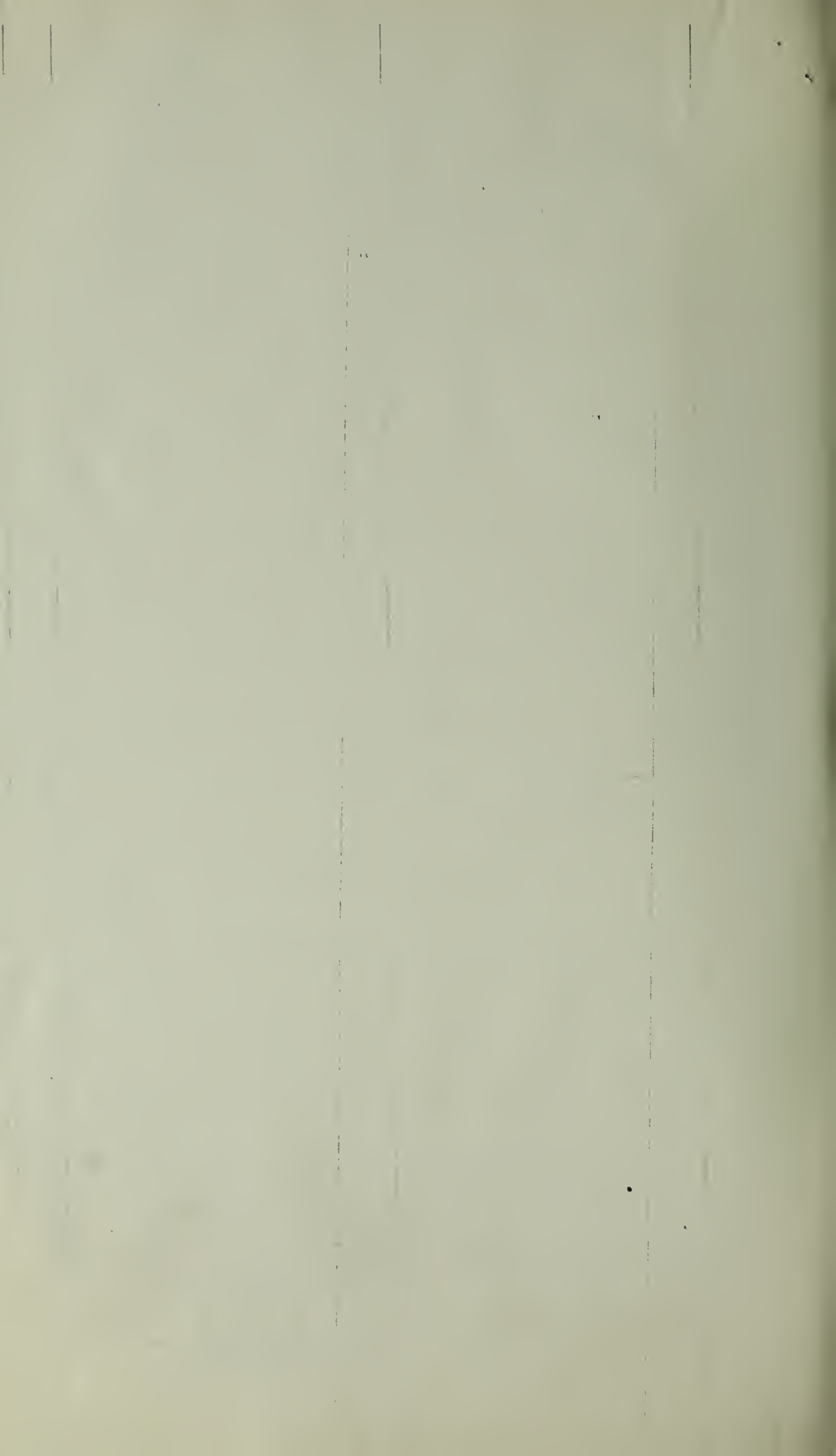
<u>Nature</u>	<u>Number</u>
<u>Public Health Act, 1936 (Contd.)</u>	
General Sanitation and Drainage Inspections:	
Nuisances, not statutory -	
Initial Inspections	247
Other Inspections	109
Other sanitary defects -	
Initial Inspections	184
Other Inspections	15
Water Supplies:	
Sampling - Public supplies	78
Private supplies	1
Swimming bath water	20
Inspections	2
<u>Factories Act, 1937.</u>	
Inspections for Sanitary Conditions:	
Factories with mechanical power	47
Factories without mechanical power	19
Outworkers premises	2
Inspections for Means of Escape in case of fire	27
<u>Shops Act, 1934.</u>	
Total shops visited	135
Inspections of shops to which Act applies	88
<u>Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
Housing Conditions:	
Inspections for housing defects (excluding Public Health Act inspections)	286
Houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations	23
Inspections for compliance with notices (including work in progress)	1134
Overcrowding:	
Case investigations	46
Dwellinghouses measured up for 'Permitted number' data	55
Corporation Housing:	
Investigation of home conditions prior to removal to Corporation houses	114
Visits to tenants of Corporation houses to ascertain home conditions	22
Miscellaneous enquiries	5
<u>Food and Drugs Act, 1938.</u>	
Meat Inspection:	
Visits to Abattoir for meat inspection	391
Number of carcasses examined at Abattoir	9752
Visits to shops, etc., for meat inspection	24

<u>Nature</u>	<u>Number</u>
<u>Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (Contd.)</u>	
Milk Supplies:	
Investigation of production methods	10
Investigation of distribution methods	26
Sampling - Graded milks	41
Other milks	24
Ice-Cream:	
Investigations, also under Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations -	
Manufacture	45
Retailing	44
Sampling	59
Other Foods:	
Visits to shops, etc., for food inspection	62
Food Premises Inspections:	
Cowsheds under Milk and Dairies Order	26
Pasteurising plant under Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, etc.	55
Other dairies	20
Abattoir and other premises under Public Health (Meat) Regulations	26
Rooms under Food and Drugs Act, section 13	356
Premises under Food and Drugs Act, section 14 - Ice-cream	33
Preserved food, etc.	26
Knackers Yard Inspections:	5
Suspected Food Poisoning Enquiries:	17
<u>Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.</u>	
Investigations into Licensing of Slaughtermen	21
<u>Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.</u>	
Inspections made in course of general survey of district	Not recorded in detail
Inspections of premises listed as 'Particularly liable to infestation'	69
Inspections of premises receiving treatment, or on complaint	151
<u>Miscellaneous Inspections</u> not falling into above categories	16



Number of Notices Served and the Result of Service

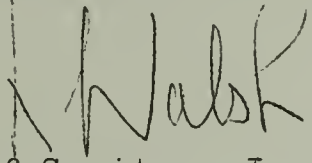
	No. of Informal Notices						No. of Statutory Notices					
	(a) Outstanding from 1948						(g) Outstanding from 1948					
Act and Section under which or, in the case of informal notices, preliminary to which, notice was served.	(b) Served in 1949						(h) Served in 1949					
	(c) Total of (a) and (b)						(i) Total of (g) and (h)					
	(d) Complied with						(j) Complied with					
	(e) Statutory notice subsequently served in 1949						(k) Work done by L.A. in default					
	(f) Outstanding at end of 1949						(l) Outstanding at end of 1949					
Public Health Act, 1936:	27	86	113	96	14	3	1	14	15	15		
Section 39, 44 or 45	6	169	169	159	2	10	3	14	5	3		
" 75	6	41	47	41	1	4		2	1			
" 93	2	17	19	17		1		1	1			
Miscellaneous												
Housing Act, 1936:	57	201	258	144	69	45	2	72	74	71		
Section 9												
Factories Act, 1937:	2	12	14	13		1						
Part One												
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919:	6	107	113	101		12						
Section 5												



The Department

The Staff Establishment of Chief Sanitary Inspector, two Additional Inspectors, a pupil and two clerks, remained as fixed in 1946. There were no staff changes during the year. This Report would be incomplete were I not to make reference to the excellent work performed by each member of the staff.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

 M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Municipal Offices,
Pontefract.

June, 1950.

